



The Antiquary.



JUNE, 1899.

Notes of the Month.

THREE more reports of the Historical Manuscripts Commission have appeared lately. One is the second volume of the Ormonde MSS., a miscellaneous collection, containing important Ordnance Office Reports, and other matter of special interest to students of military history. Next comes the seventh instalment of the calendar of State Papers preserved at Hatfield House, which contains the papers of 1597. A section of the valuable introduction which relates largely to London topography should appeal to the newly re-formed London Topographical Society. The third report, which deals with the rich collection of the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, includes many letters and papers throwing light on the secret history of our relations with France in the time of the Cabal.

Among forthcoming sales one of the most interesting will be that of the eleventh section of the late Sir Thomas Phillipps' collection of MSS. and autograph letters, which Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge will bring to the hammer on June 5 and the five following days. In a short note we can only indicate a few of the chief items of interest. One lot consists of a large collection of papers and letters and other accumulations of Charles and John Almon, of the *General Advertiser* of last century fame. The lot fills seven volumes, folio and quarto. There are about thirty volumes of Sir Egerton Brydges' correspondence and

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memoranda relating to Lee Priory, poetry, etc. More important are an unpublished *Autograph Journal of Walter George*, containing *Notes of Public and Parliamentary Proceedings at Home and Abroad from 1627 to 1642*, and a journal, also unpublished, by Sir Henry Wotton, of the *Chief Things Happened in our Journey from Deepe the 14th August*. Twenty-five folio volumes are filled with papers illustrative of the history of Turkey from 1537 to the middle of the last century. Among the older MSS. are several household books, including one of George, Duke of Clarence, 1468; a household roll of Anne, Duchess of Buckingham, which dates from 1463, and is nearly 13 feet long; and the original Wardrobe Roll of the ninth year of Queen Elizabeth, with the signature of the Queen. There are also a twelfth-century Aristotle, an illuminated MS. of Lucretius, and a fourteenth-century Lucan, *Pharsalia*. More than 200 of the MSS. are on vellum.

Mr. W. H. Jacob, an old friend of the *Antiquary*, sends us his *brochure* on the Westgate, Winchester (Warren and Son, High Street), of which ancient city he is alderman. The little book, which contains much interesting matter, is compiled from the Coffe Books and other documents found in the ancient chest kept within the Gate. There is a baker's dozen of illustrations, including one of the fine bronze horn, which is said to have been that of the warder or porter of the gate, and which, from the episcopal figure and other decorations on it, is supposed to date from about Henry II.'s time. Later it became the moot-horn blown by the city beadle for the summoning of assemblies. The museum within the Gate also includes a set of standard weights of the time of Henry VIII. and Queen Elizabeth, including the famous Winchester Bushel. At the end of the pamphlet, which is well worth the modest fourpence at which it is priced, are a variety of quaint extracts from old documents relating to the Westgate.

Messrs. Frost and Reed, of Bristol, kindly send us the last two of the set of twelve original etchings of The Temple, London, by Percy Thomas, R.P.E., which we have

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previously noticed in these columns. One is "The Dining Hall of the Middle Temple"—a very successful plate, while the other represents "King's Bench Walk and the Inner Temple Garden," for which we do not care so much. Both Mr. Thomas and his publishers may be congratulated on the successful completion of this desirable set of etchings.



At the anniversary meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, held on April 24, the following gentlemen were elected President, Council, and officers for the ensuing year: President, Viscount Dillon; Vice-Presidents, Sir John Evans and Messrs. Everard Green and J. T. Micklethwaite; Treasurer, Mr. Philip Norman; Director, Mr. F. G. Hilton Price; Secretary, Mr. C. H. Read; and Sir E. M. Thompson, Rev. E. S. Dewick, Messrs. C. P. Clarke, Lionel H. Cust, W. Gowland, Emanuel Green, A. Higgins, F. A. Inderwick, Q.C., H. Jenner, H. Jones, Leonard Lindsay, G. H. Overend, W. H. Richardson, and H. R. Tedder.



Mr. George Seaborne, of Hengoed, Maesycwmmer, writes: "The large and important parish of Gelligaer, Glamorgan, extending almost from Caerphilly to Merthyr Tydvil, has been the scene of many struggles between the Ancient Britons and the invading Romans, Normans, and Saxons, and a good many relics of the battles and of the ancient inhabitants are frequently turned up and destroyed through ignorance. The District Council have no power to open a museum, nor do they wish to do so; but they have granted space in the Public Hall for exhibiting any specimens or articles found, and they have also issued circulars, of which I enclose copies, to the inhabitants (1) asking them to preserve and report any relics, and (2) to the landowners and others asking for gifts or loans of suitable articles. It is not the intention of the Council to enter into competition with any existing museums, but they hope to get a few examples of such stone, iron, or bronze and other articles as are likely to be found in the district for the purpose of educating the farmers and others as to the use and value of any such things when they find them. A

good many schools are in the district, and it is thought that by making the students familiar with such things, it will lead to the preservation of many. The tops of our hills abound with tumuli, cairns, and cist-faen." The District Council of Gelligaer is evidently an enlightened body, and we trust that their appeal will have satisfactory results. Local governing bodies might do much more than they have hitherto done to foster an intelligent interest in all that links us to the past.



We have received a copy of a Bath magazine, *The Beacon*, for April last, containing a brief sketch of Shelley's and Mary Godwin's life at Bath, written by Mr. J. F. Meehan, the well-known bookseller of that city. Incidentally there is an interesting notice of William Meyler, who established a circulating library—"Sir Anthony Absolute's 'evergreen-tree of diabolical knowledge'"—in Orange Grove, Bath, in 1781, and who published the first number of the *Bath Herald* on March 3, 1792. It was through Meyler that Walter Savage Landor published anonymously his little volume of poems called *Simonidea*, a book now worth its weight in gold, as only some three or four copies are known to be in existence. Mr. Meehan suggests that Meyler in the same way may have been of use to Shelley in issuing some of the anonymous publications which the poet was so fond of producing. The paper is illustrated by a view, from a drawing by David Cox, representing Meyler's Library, with the Pump Room adjoining, as it appeared about the time of Shelley's visit to Bath in 1816.



It is much to be regretted that the celebrations of the Cromwell Tercentenary during the last week in April were of so one-sided a character. That the Nonconformist churches should take a leading part in commemorating the birth of the great Independent was only natural, but it is certainly a matter of regret that the celebration was left almost entirely in their hands, thus giving it to a certain extent a partisan character. Dr. S. R. Gardiner's painstakingly thorough and fearlessly impartial portrait of the Lord Protector, one of the most typical of great Englishmen,

should by this time have done something not only to restore him to the place which is his due, but, on the other hand, should have served to prune some of the exuberant rhetoric in which certain orators indulged a few weeks ago. Perhaps the most interesting meeting held in connection with the commemoration was that which took place on the afternoon of April 27 in the open air, on a portion of the actual battlefield at Naseby. The Rev. Dr. Cox, F.S.A., Vicar of Holdenby, Northampton, the parish in which Charles I. was for some months a prisoner, was the chief speaker. He gave an interesting address on the constitutional causes that led to the Puritan revolt, and emphasized the fact that there was no spot in the whole of England so identified with the very essence of the Cromwellian spirit as Naseby. In this connection he protested against Nonconformists claiming an exclusive appreciation of Cromwell's life and work.

Dr. Cox, writing to the *Northampton Mercury*, states that as a consequence of the demonstration on the field of Naseby, a committee has been constituted for the purpose of forming a library of books bearing on the various aspects of the history and causes of the Civil War. Contributions in money for books and book-cases, as well as actual literature, will be gladly received. It is hoped that the gift may be made to Naseby on June 14, the anniversary of the battle.

The newly-formed East Herts Archæological Society held its first annual meeting and conversazione in the Council Chamber, Hertford. Addresses were delivered by the mayor, Mr. Hellier R. H. Gosselin, and others, and a paper was read by Mr. F. C. Dear on the residence known as Bayley Hall, Hertford. A collection of antiquities—many of which had a local interest—was arranged on tables round the room, and proved a source of considerable attraction to those present. Amongst the articles exhibited were some specimens of Roman and Low Countries pottery, tiles of the ancient St. John's Church, a curious old drinking cup (date about 1600), a key of peculiar workmanship, an old seal—all dug up in different

parts of Hertford; valuable collections of old British and Colonial gold and silver coins, an interesting collection of Hertfordshire tradesmen's tokens, 1648-73; pottery and cinerary urn found at Hoddesdon; views of Hertford and the neighbourhood; and a number of excellent rubbings of memorial brasses in Hertfordshire churches.

Professor Lanciani, writing to the *Athenæum*, replies to the suggestion made by Professor Flinders Petrie, which we quoted last month from that journal, that the "Black Stone" of the Comitium marked the spot where the open-air assemblies of the Patres took place in the early days of Rome, and where the opening ceremonies of each meeting of the Senate were performed in subsequent ages. "There is this strong objection," he says—"the spot marked by the black stone was considered of ill omen. Festus says: 'Niger lapis in Comitio LOCVM FVNESTVM significat.' Why it was a 'locus funestus' nobody knew for a certainty. Festus himself says that the spot had been selected for the burial of Romulus, the founder of the city; but as the hero had been bodily carried up to heaven by his father Mars, the funeral plot had been given up to Faustulus 'nutricius eius.' However groundless these traditions may be, the simple fact that they were believed by the Romans makes it almost impossible for us to connect this ill-omened place with the meetings of the Senate."

Kingston-upon-Thames has been celebrating the seven-hundredth anniversary of the granting of its charter of incorporation by King John in 1199. The exact year in which the charter was granted is not free from doubt, but the Kingston folk have followed Biden, who, in his *History and Antiquities of Kingston-upon-Thames*, says: "The town was early incorporated, though the date of its incorporation is uncertain. The first charter granted to the freemen of Kingston was that of John, which bears date Portcester, 26th April, 1199." Besides a parade of corporation horses and carts, and a procession of local tradesmen, the celebration included the opening of a collection of antiquarian and geological objects of interest, presented to the town by Alderman Frederick

Gould, J.P. It is proposed that this collection shall form the nucleus of a museum to be established in the borough.



It is understood that the report of the committee on some Irish gold ornaments in the British Museum will shortly be issued, and will recommend that the relics should be restored to the National Museum in Dublin. They are attributed to the beginning of the Christian era. They were discovered some time ago in the North of Ireland, and have been exhibited before the Society of Antiquaries in London. They consist of a collar with ornament of late Celtic character in relief, one twisted collar of solid wire, and part of another, two neckchains, a bowl of very thin metal, and a model of a boat, with oars and other implements.



The annual meeting of the British Record Society (Limited) was held on May 4, at the Heralds' College, Lord Hawkesbury presiding. The report for the past year, after pointing out that 672 pages of printed matter were presented to each subscriber in exchange for the guinea subscription, goes on to state that the number of volumes issued now amounts to twenty, the most useful of them being the Calendar of Wills in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, beginning at 1400, and now in course of being brought down to 1604.



Early in May Messrs. Christie sold a choice collection of old Chinese enamelled egg-shell plates at prices which apparently exceed all previous records. Two pairs of dishes brought a total of 185 guineas, two plates 120 guineas, three others 165 guineas, and four dishes 170 guineas.



It was decided at the last council meeting of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society, Sir John Dorrington, Bart., M.P., president, in the chair, that the summer meeting should be held on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 9, 10, 11. Fairford is to be the meeting-place, which, as everyone knows, possesses such a glorious church, and such priceless glass. There are many interesting places in the district, and the programme is now being prepared by the

hon. sec. (the Rev. William Bazeley). The Society hopes to publish very shortly an index to the first twenty volumes of its transactions, and also a volume on the church plate of Gloucestershire.



The Antiquities of a Marchland.

By MISS CHARLOTTE S. BURNE.



BORDERLAND must always be a happy hunting-ground for the antiquary. Bygone wars, ancient trade-routes, forsaken markets, stamp their mark upon a countryside, and leave it a palimpsest the more precious to the initiated because they alone have skill to read it. The interest of the Scottish Border is familiar to all educated people, thanks to one of its sons, who added the poet's magic gift to the enthusiasm of the local antiquary. But the less fortunate Welsh Marches, unhonoured and unsung, have few associations for the world at large. Yet the Western borderland comes but little short of the Northern in intrinsic interest.

Let us tell, briefly and sketchily, the story of one county on the English side of the border.

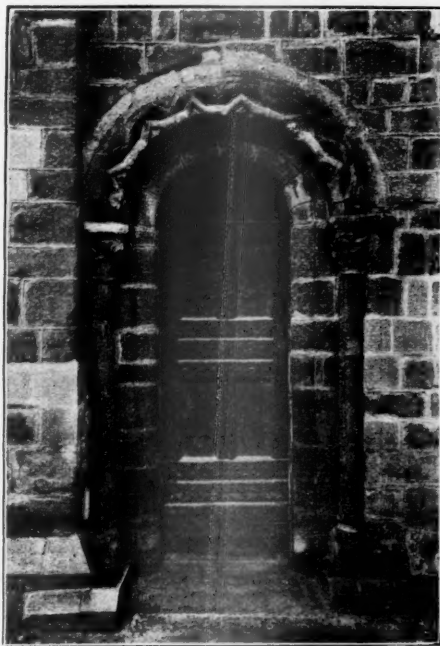
Shropshire is a typical example of the special interest of marchlands to the antiquary. Scarcely a height within its limits but is crowned with ancient earthworks, silent records, most of them, of the sturdy resistance offered to the first historic invaders, the Romans. Traditions of the undaunted Caradoc are told on more than one such spot, and his name still clings to one bold, isolated steep, surmounted by a triple entrenchment. An old cave, popularly called King Caractacus' Hole, was declared by tradition to have been his last place of refuge, though other sites make a better claim to the honour. The Roman conquerors, in their turn, left their mark on the country. Roads still traversed made it possible to bridle the gallant Silures. Watling Street runs directly through the county, and at Uriconium, by Severn side,

other ways branched from it, leading southwards to Bravinium, northwards to Deva, westwards to the lead-mines, already worked in the western hills. In later days it must have served to facilitate the onslaught of the next race of invaders. That Uriconium was finally taken by assault, burnt, and ruined is witnessed by the charred skeletons and smoke-blackened walls revealed by excavation, and Shropshire archæologists cherish the hope that the Society of Antiquaries will ere long undertake a work at Uriconium which may be not less amply rewarded than their researches at Silchester.

With the English invasion, the history of the district as a borderland really begins, for they, unlike the previous conquerors, never subdued the whole island, and from this moment modern Shropshire became the chronic battle-ground of opposing races. Its history for centuries is the history of measures taken for the security of the border. The Norman William sought to achieve this by the erection of the English border counties into three practically palatine earldoms of Chester, Shrewsbury, and Hereford, the last of which endured but a few years. That of Shrewsbury, entrusted to the sagacious Roger de Montgomery, "foremost of those who called the lands after their own names," was forfeited by his son, the monster Robert de Belesme, who, having supported Robert of Normandy, was routed and expelled by Henry I. in 1102.

Rufus, by way of subduing the Welsh, had authorized the Barons who dwelt on the borders to make war on, and conquer for themselves, the lands of the Welsh Kings; and when the palatinate of Shrewsbury (as it may almost be called) was abolished, many of the Earl's former vassals gradually acquired the quasi-independent status of Lords Marchers. Little by little the area of independence was extended, till whole tracts which at the date of Domesday lay within Shropshire became "marchland," where the King's writ did not run, and where the Sheriff of the county had no power. Briefly, in the marches the feudal system prevailed in the Continental fashion as a system of jurisdiction, while in the rest of England it existed only as a system of land-tenure. Lawlessness and rebellion were the natural

results. A moment's thought will show how the strength of most of the revolts against our mediæval Kings lay in the valleys of the Severn and Wye. And the Kings of the "New Monarchy," as it has been called, bent on the firm establishment of the royal authority, took active steps for the better government of the marches. The inheritance of the estates of the powerful marcher family of Mortimer gave Edward IV. a personal



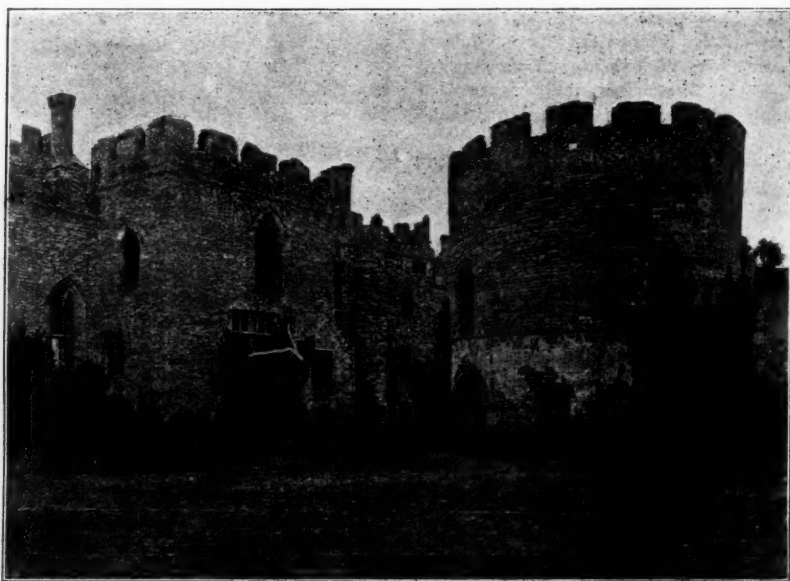
SOUTH TRANSEPT DOOR OF ST MARY'S CHURCH,
SHREWSBURY.

(From a photo by Mr. F. R. Armytage, of Shrewsbury.)

footing in the unsettled district, and he made his ancestral castle of Ludlow the seat of government, whence the newly-created organization of the Lord President and Council of the Marches strove to put down broils, to enforce the punishment of criminals, and generally to guard against revolts and breaches of the peace. Edward attempted also to encourage peaceful trade, and granted charters of incorporation to the Drapers' and Shearmen's (= cloth-dressers') Companies at

Shrewsbury. Before his reign was ended, the Drapers had their chantry in St. Mary's Church, Shrewsbury, and almshouses had been founded by Degory Watur, one of their number, close at hand. But neither trade nor agriculture could flourish while outlaws and robbers abounded. Even in the reign of Henry VIII., Bishop Rowland Lee, the President of the Marches, was offering rewards for the capture of notorious cattle-lifters, alive or dead. On one occasion two

his horse over the gap made in Montford Bridge to cut off his escape, and so got back into the marches, where he was safe from the Sheriff's power. As late as 1583 the Drapers' Company agreed that none should set out on the dangerous journey to the frieze-market at Oswestry (which was in the marches) before six o'clock, and that they should go armed, and in company. This was forty-eight years after (in 1535) an Act had been passed by Thomas Cromwell's famous Reformation



ROUND CHAPEL IN THE INNER COURTYARD OF LUDLOW CASTLE.

(From a photo by Mr. F. R. Armytage, of Shrewsbury.)

were brought to him at Ludlow, one alive, the other "in quarters, sewn in a sack. I would ye could have seen the fashion of it," he wrote to Cromwell. In this and the preceding reigns "Wild Humphrey Kynaston," a robber outlaw of good family, lived in a cave still pointed out in the side of Nesscliff Hill, overlooking the road between Shrewsbury and Oswestry, where he could pounce on unwary travellers. Having one day crossed to the Shrewsbury side of the Severn, he was pursued by the Sheriff's men, but he leaped

Parliament, making the whole of the marches "shire-ground." The districts surrounding Ellesmere, Oswestry and Clun were allotted to Shropshire, but much land in the upper valley of the Severn, which had been accounted part of Shropshire in the days of the Norman Earls, was now given to the new shire of Montgomery. The jurisdiction of the Council of the Marches was not abolished (in fact, it was in this year that Bishop Lee began his energetic rule), but it naturally soon became a useless and cumbrous

piece of machinery. Together with other peculiar jurisdictions it was condemned by the Long Parliament in 1641, but not finally abolished till 1689.

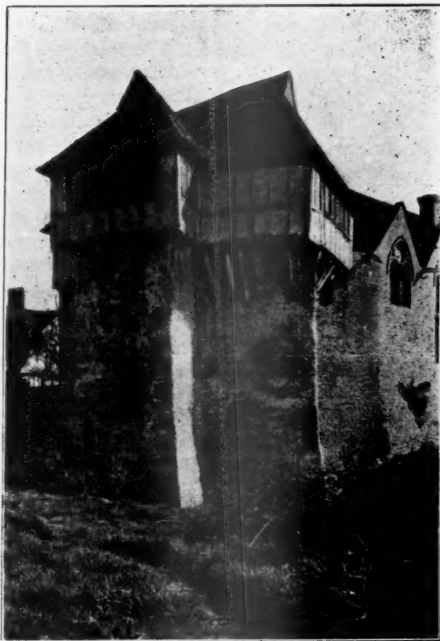
Such an eventful and stirring history cannot but have left its mark upon the countryside; and situated as the county is at a distance from the capital, and somewhat removed from the main stream of national life, its antiquities, its old customs, and its old families have been favourably placed for preservation.

The limits of that conquest which first made it a borderland are marked to this day by Offa's Dyke, running with a straight course north and south through its western hills, now within, now without, the present boundary between England and Wales. By whatever King it was raised, that it was raised by the English conquerors, and not by the Welsh defenders, is evident from the fact that the ditch is on the western side of the bank; and it is still a bit of local (whether general or not I cannot say) customary law that a boundary fence, bank and ditch alike, belongs to him on whose side the bank stands. Little, however, do the local population now know of King Offa. The only tradition current there of late years, so far as I know, is that the dyke is a furrow turned up by the devil in a single night with a plough drawn by a gander and a turkey!

There are some fine Saxon camps, but the principal remains of the Saxon period consist of the local place-names. The *Westons* all along the Welsh Border; *Marchamley* in the midst of the county, denoting an earlier boundary than Offa's Dyke; the dedication of wells and churches to Northumbrian and Mercian saints, indicating the needful new conversion and its source; the few Anglicized Welsh names—*Kinlet* (?), *Quat* (?), *Wenlock* (?)—occurring sporadically among the "tons" and "stokes" and "buries"—all these have their tale to tell of the character of the conquest. But the architectural remains of the period are not important, with the exception of the very interesting early Saxon crypt uncovered about ten years ago in the churchyard of Old St. Chad's, Shrewsbury.

Perhaps this is due not only to Welsh irruptions, but to the deep root which the Norman invaders took in the borderland.

Norman ecclesiastical remains abound. Of the "five minsters round the Wrekin," two—Shrewsbury and Wenlock—were founded or re-founded by Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, in the Conqueror's lifetime; the other three—Buildwas, Haughmond, and Silleshall—in the first half of the next century; and by far the greater part of what remains of all the five dates from the original foundation. Within the walls of Ludlow



STOKESAY CASTLE, NORTH END.

(From a photo by Mr. F. R. Armytage, of Shrewsbury.)

Castle is a tiny Norman chapel, one of the only five *round* churches in England. The majority of the old parish churches can show at least a font or a doorway of Norman date, and frequently much more.

The constant liability to Welsh incursion during this period necessitated the erection of many castles. Even some of the church-towers on the south-west border were evidently intended for defence. Very little is left of most of the early castles. Of the

strongholds of the Stranges at Knockin, the Corbets at Caus, the Mortimers at Cleobury Mortimer, and many others, the sites only can be traced. A ruined Norman keep alone remains of that of the Fitzalans of Clun; an Edwardian gateway of that of the Fitzwarins of Whittington. At Acton Burnell may be seen the shell—complete, but only a shell—of the castle which Edward I.'s Chancellor, Robert Burnell, Bishop of Bath and Wells, had license to crenellate in 1284; and near it two gables, which are said to be those of the barn in which the Commons sat and passed the statute *De Mercatoribus* of Acton Burnell, in the Parliament called in 1283 to decide "what should be done with David," the leader of the late Welsh revolt. In contrast with these, Stokesay Castle (as it is called) remains entire, a perfect and most interesting specimen of a thirteenth-century mansion, fortified by the addition of an embattled tower in 1291. Perhaps its owners, the Ludlows, sprung from a merchant stock in their native town, were not of sufficient importance to provoke enmity and armed attack like the great marcher lords.

Ludlow Castle was a building of quite another sort—a grand baronial, indeed palatial, castle, chiefly dating from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Its associations belong to the era of the Council of the Marches. Edward IV. and Henry VII. both sent their eldest sons, Princes of Wales, to keep Court there, and it was the official residence of the Presidents of the Marches down to the Revolution. Dismantled under George I., it soon fell into decay, but its ruins are among the most beautiful and interesting in England. The old Council House at Shrewsbury is now occupied as a private house. It was an official meeting-place of the Council, and was used as the royal lodgings when Charles I. and James II. severally visited Shrewsbury.

Had the Welsh before Edward I.'s conquest not been the turbulent neighbours they were, had the marches in the succeeding centuries not been lawless and ill-governed, and had the Welsh woollen trade therefore developed a century before the Reformation, we should, no doubt, have seen its effect in our ecclesiastical architecture. Our old Norman churches would

have been pulled down and replaced by handsome Perpendicular ones, such as we see in peaceful districts, like Lincolnshire and Somersetshire, where trade was able to develop earlier. But as it is, we have fewer notable remains of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries than of the twelfth, and



OLD HOUSES IN FRANKWELL, SHREWSBURY.

(From a photo by Mr. Wallace Heath, of Shrewsbury.)

though we have a few good Perpendicular churches—as Battlefield (founded for the good of the souls of those who fell in the Battle of Shrewsbury, 1403), Tong, and Ludlow—yet the effect of the pacification of the marches (not completed till Henry VIII.) is to be seen, not in ecclesiastical, but in domestic architecture. Both town and

country houses of the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries are numerous.

Shrewsbury owes much of its beauty to the picturesque old "black-and-white," "half-timbered" mansions which meet the eye at every turn. Most of them were the houses of its early merchant citizens; others were the town-houses of the country gentlemen, for Shrewsbury, like Norwich, became a provincial capital, where the neighbouring families were accustomed to stay from time to time. The county, too, is rich in old manor-houses, many of which also are built in black-and-white. Pitchford Hall, in this style, is surely unsurpassed even in Cheshire. Plash Hall may be cited as an example of our old manor-houses, and their connection with the history of the county. It was built by Sir William Leighton, a cadet of the family of Leighton of Wattlesborough, who was Chief Justice of North Wales and one of the Council of the Marches. He died 1607. The house is built of brick, with moulded brick chimneys in the style of those at Hampton Court, as to which tradition tells that the judge respited a criminal on condition that he would build them, and after having promised him his life, or at any rate raised his hopes of it, hanged him when the chimneys were finished. Within are a beautiful old hall with a screen and a minstrels' gallery, ceilings with moulded armorial bearings, an indelible bloodstain, and pertaining to it a legend of a Sunday card-player carried off by the Old Gentleman himself.

The plan of this very rough and general sketch of the antiquities of Shropshire obliges us to omit any mention of some of its most interesting remains, such as the Prior's lodging at Much Wenlock, the double church at Stapleton, the seventeenth-century chapel at Langley, as not being connected with its character as a Borderland.



The Antiquary among the Pictures.

I.—THE ROYAL ACADEMY.



THE critics on "Press Day" wended their way up the great stairs of Burlington House, and reached the vestibule—unencumbered with the dilatory turnstiles—the first glance was cast across the central hall to see what big canvas had been hung in Gallery VI. to catch the eye (according to usual custom) on entering. But nothing was clearly visible on the opposite wall of the gallery; there was a something blocking up the view in the centre of the central hall. That something proved to be the pedestal and colossal bronze statue of Oliver Cromwell (1910) by Mr. Thornycroft. It is a grand and imposing figure of the great Protector, standing sturdily with legs somewhat apart, and it is not a little remarkable to find Cromwell, at the very time of the tercentenary of his birth, thus dominating the *Royal Academy*. The statue will shortly be placed in a good site in Westminster Hall Gardens; it is an open secret that it is the gift of Lord Rosebery to the nation, though we are not aware that the fact has hitherto been publicly stated.

A whiff of the great civil war seems to have passed almost unconsciously through this year's Academy. In Gallery I. the very first picture that attracts attention is a small but admirable double-figure subject called "News from the Front" (3), by Mr. Seymour Lucas, R.A. It is his diploma work, deposited on his election as an Academician; a despatch, during the Commonwealth struggle, has just reached the General when pondering over a map. Another picture, full of careful drawing and accurate detail, and yet not overweighted, is Mr. Newton Braby's (586):

"Like a servant of the Lord,
With his Bible and his sword."

A Roundhead, in steeple hat, and broad white bands over his leathern jerkin, is seated at a table reading intently from a great Bible, whilst in front of it rests his trusty broadsword.

There is many an historic sermon in the contrast between this picture and that of Mr. W. P. Frith, R.A., "Charles II. and Lady Castlemaine" (204). It is the sickening incident from Pepys' *Diary*, of the King on his knees, in cringing attitude, and with fawning expression seeking pardon for some slight from his offended mistress!

In this year's Academy there is a singular absence of any striking figure-subject of an historic character, save some few that deal, as usual, with war or warlike interludes.

Of the latter may be mentioned Mr. Robert Hillingford's two pictures—"Sebastopol: the Attack on the Redan" (55), and "The Scots Greys among the French Guns at Waterloo" (615), the former by far the most stirring and skilful performance. Then Mrs. Butler gives us "The Colours: Advance of the Scots Guards at the Alma" (912), and Mr. Wollen, "The 21st Lancers at Omdurman" (983). There is nothing specially noteworthy about either, save that they offer a striking contrast as to the way in which troops of the past generation and of the present enter upon the practical warfare of an engagement. The Alma was the last battle of the old order, the Guards going into action in full regimentals, with colours flying, and band playing. At Omdurman, contrariwise, the war uniforms and accoutrements are dull to paint, and unattractive, but eminently practical for the purpose of actual strife.

The hackneyed subject of "Joan of Arc" (601) once more gives the opportunity for the general treatment of a medieval warlike scene. Mr. F. Roe presents us with the warrior maid riding forth from the town gate, "clothed all in white armour, excepting her head, her charger a great black one."

"Saragossa, 10th February, 1809" (64), by Mr. H. H. Piffard, is a remarkable picture, full of stir and vivid action, illustrative of the terrific fight in the great church. It is charged with realism.

Mr. W. S. Wyllie, A.R.A., gives us a sea-fight in "The Battle of the Nile" (558), a dark, gloomy picture, with the names of the shattered vessels on the frame below. It will not add to his reputation. He is much more at home in the pastoral scene of "Peace and Plenty" (46). Mr. Thomas

Davidson has achieved a distinct success in the grouping and general work of the "Burial of Admiral Drake" (944). The scene represented is thus described in an extract from Corbett: "Next day Sir Thomas Baskerville bore the Admiral's body in a leaden coffin a league from shore, and there, amidst a lament of trumpets, and the thunder of the guns, the sea received her own again."

In the place of honour in Gallery II. hangs "St. Paul's: the Queen's Diamond Jubilee" (105), by Mr. Gow, R.A. In Gallery IV., in an equally prominent place, hangs Mr. Charlton's "God Save the Queen" (273), painted by Royal command; whilst in Gallery X. is "The Diamond Jubilee Service outside St. Paul's Cathedral" (888), by Gennaro D'Amato. All these three big pictures are of the same scene at the west front of St. Paul's. All are clever, specially Mr. Gow's fairly successful miniature portraits of royalty, officers, and bishops, but the glare of the scarlets, and crimsons, and reds of the gorgeous uniforms, and the hopeless vulgarity of the adjacent buildings and stands make any artistic effect impossible. They are all ugly and bewildering, and by their patchwork brilliancy spoil every other picture within a given radius.

Mr. Abbey, R.A., is this year distinctly disappointing. He has no striking picture. "Who is Sylvia?" (255) is a flaunting self-assured beauty, and her swains are equally disagreeable, save the half-figure to the right of the love-sick poet. His larger canvas, "O Mistress Mine, where are you Roaming?" (289), is but another arrangement of rich garments, wherein reds, of course, predominate. Both are atmospherised with redolence of models and lay-figures, and merely suggest cleverness of draping.

There are, however, two pictures which are pleasant and bright, and eminently true to their respective periods—"Skating Days in Old Brabant" (226), by Mr. Boughton, R.A., with seventeenth-century costumes; and "The Bayeux Tapestry" (670), by Mr. G. G. Hicks, representing Queen Matilda at work with her Norman and Saxon maidens, and a page-boy sorting the threads in colours. Both bear study and involve no eye-ache.

The sacred canvases of 1899 are for the most part unhappy in conception, and poor

in execution. There is not one in all the galleries that a churchman of taste would care to see hanging on the walls of a parish or cathedral church. The Old Testament only inspires a single artist, Mr. William Lance, who paints a not unpleasing "King Saul" (899), with the shepherd lad taming his evil temper. "The Annunciation" (879), of Miss Beatrice Parsons is simply painful in its absurdly nonchalant treatment—a girl in a modern garden of marigolds and tall white lilies, with English outbuildings and toolshed, receives a tall visitor, strolling in out of an English lane, wearing a faded mauve dressing-gown, and with a washed-out expression like a Girton professor at the end of term. Mr. Topham's "Nunc Dimittis" (402) is the scene on the steps of the Temple; it is realistic, but reverent, and has much good painting in it. The kneeling figure of "Mary of Bethany" (373), by Mr. G. W. Joy, is in no way remarkable; but Mr. Bacon's "Gethsemane" (678) is a grievous travesty of the deepest of the Christian mysteries. Of the figure and face of our Lord we cannot bring ourselves to say anything, but the garden is full of gigantic red poppies, whilst two of the sleeping disciples have coarse, low faces, and the younger waking one looks weak and imbecile. Under any other name the picture is a poor thing; under the present title it is revolting. Close to this picture hangs another, called "The Kingdom of Heaven" (403), by Mr. Charles Sims; it is the most watery, chilly conception of a possible heaven that it has surely ever entered into an artist's mind to imagine. It is early spring, the trees are bare save here and there, whilst a few attenuated plum and cherry-trees have broken out into blossom. Troops of washed-out looking children, lightly clad, and looking sadly bored, make a feeble endeavour after preparing for May games in the long damp grass.

Bordering close upon sacred subjects comes Mr. Solomon's large composition "Laus Deo" (437). This remarkable picture is about the only successful imaginative subject in this year's Academy. The knight is returning in triumph from the fight with the world, the flesh, and the devil, and a glow of other-worldliness is shining in his lustrous eyes. The allegory is fine though

somewhat perplexing, and it is sure to be interpreted in different ways according to the temperament of the observer. But the title gives a clear keynote of interpretation.

In the great third gallery the chief picture is undoubtedly Mr. Alma Tadema's "Thermae Antoninianæ" (238). It is unusually large for this artist, and is a beautiful and ingenious composition representing the Baths of Caracalla. There are a profusion of gay groups and lively incidents, with the cleverest possible treatment of the marbles and the architecture, and the costume (or lack of costume) of the decaying Empire. The grouping and foreshortening of the three draped female figures in the foreground is admirable.

Of myths and tales both classic and fairy, there are the usual number of illustrations. Space only permits us to briefly name the more striking. Mr. Val Prinsep's "Cinderella" (214) is a single figure of the great heroine of childhood in kitchen dress in the chimney corner, abounding in natural, graceful charm, and painted by a master-hand. The fair "Elaine" (544) in her flower-strewn bier-barge, by Mr. Blair Leighton; Mr. Ernest Normand's "Legend of Pandora" (645-47), in triptych treatment; Miss Henrietta Rae's "Diana and Callisto" (927), from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*; and Mr. Nowell's "Perseus and Andromeda" (104) are all pleasant and praiseworthy in somewhat differing degrees.

Mr. Byam Shaw's "Love the Conqueror" (906), though exaggeratedly quaint and satirical, is one of the most noteworthy pictures of the year, and must certainly have a paragraph to itself. Love the conqueror appears as a mailed but helmetless Cupid mounted on a war steed on a green hillock, whilst approaching him by a circuitous path is a procession of his prisoners, with hands tied, taken from all the love-lorn ranks of history and of literature, Queen Elizabeth, and Mary Queen of Scots, Charles II., and Henry VIII., Dante and Robert Burns, Napoleon and Paganini, Michael Angelo and Byron, and scores of others equally incongruous, but all victims of love, crowd along the way.

The year 1899 will certainly be remembered as pre-eminently a portrait year. Their predominance will probably produce a reaction,

and possibly a revolution of the Hanging Committee. This committee consisted of five members, and four of them are portrait-painters. The growling this year is louder and more prolonged than usual. Still, we are bound to admit that it is a good year for portraits, and that there are several far above the usual average.

The President's (Sir E. J. Poynter) sole contribution is a portrait of "Hon. Violet Monckton" (153); it is a noble work, and makes a true picture irrespective of the actual portrait. Mr. Orchardson, R.A., gives four (102, 243, 283, 817), of whom the Earl of Crawford, holding a precious bound volume in his hands, is clearly the best—but why will he invariably give a decided touch of jaundice to all his sitters? Mr. Sargent, R.A., is not at his best; of his various portraits the one of "Miss Octavia Hill" (122), though an unattractive subject, comes first. "The Lady Ulrica Duncombe" (334) is a charming subject, and Mr. Shannon has produced a picture worthy of her beauty. There is a fashion in criticism, and the belittling of Mr. Herkomer, R.A., has set in with some severity, but to our mind it would be very difficult to rival or to equal the force and verve put into "Dr. W. W. Baldwin" (106), or "G. Herbert Strutt, Esq." (560). Mr. Goodall, R.A., has achieved a quiet triumph in the calm endurance shown on the grand features of "Mr. Gladstone" (526) in the evening of his life. Few more agreeable or life-like portraits are now painted than that of the bright features of "Provost Magrath, Queen's College, Oxford" (985), by Hon. John Collier.

We are glad, too, to notice that Sir W. B. Richmond, R.A., has found time to paint the admirable portrait of "Miss Muriel Wilson" (137), as well as the smaller but speaking likeness of the aged "Dean of St. Paul's" (318).

Child-painting is almost an art in itself, and much more generally interesting than the portraits of adults. We hope that nothing will ever tempt Mr. T. C. Gotch away from the children, not even as his own grow older. "Rosaline, Daughter of E. C. Seaton, Esq." (935) is as charming a little damsel as her name would seem to denote, though withal a little stately. Mr. Gotch's large decorative

canvas entitled "A Pageant of Children" (635), though lacking the mystic touch of some of his previous work, is a most telling and refined march of child-life, two and two, from the somewhat demure maidens of fifteen, to the tiny tots of four or five. This picture would have well repaid more central hanging. Mr. Shannon's "Babes in the Wood" (13) is a delightful pair of children in an autumnal woodland, and Mr. Sant, R.A., is thoroughly successful with "The Three Daughters of J. H. Buxton, Esq." (190).

Though this year has hardly produced one great subject-painting, there is no falling off in landscapes. Mr. MacWhirter, R.A., has a gloomy powerful canvas in Gallery I., which cannot fail to attract attention: "Dark Loch Coruisk" (19) is a large lake scene surrounded by barren rock under the approach of a cloudy night. Mr. David Murray, A.R.A., has never done better work than in his "The Don abune Balgownie" (660), wherein a gleaming stretch of river is surrounded by autumnal foliage. His other three canvases are also in the main river vistas, but much varied in treatment, the most charming and soothingly quiet being "The Church Pool" (361). Mr. East's "Monks' Pool" (220), Mr. Hook's "Waders" (14), Mr. Waterlow's "La Côte d'Azur" (88), and especially Mr. A. Parson's "The Village by the Links" (434), with a wondrous swirl of roseate sunset cloud, are all noteworthy. Nevertheless, Mr. Leader, the tardily-made R.A., comes out once again as *facile princeps* among the truly English painters of English landscapes. He is certain to stand out foremost amongst our landscape painters of the last quarter of this rapidly closing century, when the time comes for summing up the past. He has four canvases this year; the best is "Where Brook and River Meet" (355), which has that enticing and somewhat rare quality (never won when specially aimed at) of presenting an apparent change of scene according to the standpoint from which it is viewed.

That marvellous veteran, Mr. Sidney Cooper, R.A., gives four pictures of his inimitable cattle and sheep, with wholly divergent backgrounds. In "A Relic of Other Days" (374), the sheep and cattle are almost subsidiary to the ruins of a fragment

of a medieval castle. Everyone, too, will be glad to have another Highland cattle-piece from Mr. Peter Graham, R.A., which is this time entitled "On the Dunes" (231).

We never remember a May picture-show in which there was such a dearth of anything noteworthy of architectural value. Only a single picture made any impression under this heading, namely, one of Mr. Logsdail's always welcome bits of Venice, called "A Venetian Interior in the Eighteenth Century" (209).

The Architectural Room has little this year to attract the antiquary. Of modern work the following are good and attractive: "Interior of St. John's Church, Cowley, Oxford" (1625), by Mr. Bodley, A.R.A.; "Two Wooden Bridges" (1635), by Messrs. George and Yeates; "The Archbishop's Palace, Canterbury" (1643), by Mr. Caroe; "The States Hall and Court House, Guernsey" (1679), by Messrs. Gotch and Saunders; and "Decoration to Walls of a Music Room" (1713), by Mr. Millier.

The Water-colour Room is unusually good, and will certainly attract more attention than is usually bestowed upon it. The subjects are more varied, and the pictures larger than is wont to be the case. Turning to the right immediately on entering the room is a charming and varied collection: A striking kneeling figure of "Pandora" (1162) in scarlet and black, by Mr. H. M. Rheam; "The Morning of Crecy" (1163), by Mr. H. R. Millar, the English bowmen just waking and inspected by the Black Prince; "The Mill, Winchelsea"; "The Welcome"; "Circe"; "Early Spring"; and two choice flower-pieces, "Jonquils," and "Mimosa," the latter by Miss Adela L. Cox, the first exhibit in the Academy (though well known in water-colour exhibitions) by the talented young niece of Mr. Leader, R.A.

Two pictures on the water-colour screen should be noted: Mr. Philip Norman's "Old Bell Inn, Holborn" (1218), and Mr. T. L. Shoosmith's "Weston Favell, Northamptonshire" (1180).

II.—THE NEW GALLERY.

The one great blank at the New Gallery, which will surely be felt by everyone, is the absence of the works of the late Sir E. Burne Jones, which gave the special note to

the Regent Street Galleries. The painter who in much reminds us of the master-hand of Burne Jones is Mr. Strudwick. He contributes this year "Falling Leaves" (73), to our mind the most desirable canvas of them all. Mr. C. E. Hallé's "Violets" (42) is a wistful, violet-eyed flower-child of the streets. His "Wishing Well" (99) illustrates an old ballad of a maiden on May Day eve, beholding the figure of an armed knight; whilst his "Fleeting Beauty" (113) gives a mother and her lovely girl gazing at a soap bubble. The Hon. John Collier has a weird crouching female figure among desolate hills, labelled "Evil" (236). All these, and possibly some half-dozen others, bear the New Gallery stamp, but the rest (save Holman Hunt's) might be in the most Philistine of galleries.

Mrs. H. M. Stanley has a classical study of two nude females, one seated on an altar and one crouching in front of it, bearing the enigmatical title of "Suspria" (7); it is a clever but utterly unsuggestive and therefore common picture. Mr. Wontner paints a delightful gipsy girl in her teens, entitled, "The Fortune Teller" (19). Mr. Wetherbee gives five girls racing on the seashore in "Caught" (37); the arrested motion of the one suddenly stopped in this pleasantly-painted frolic is remarkably well done.

In portraiture Sir W. Richmond has quite surpassed his Academy pictures. "Mrs. Marshall" (100) is probably the best English-painted portrait of the year. Mr. H. Harris Brown has won another success in the natural pose and admirable likeness of his "Sir George Gunning" (34); whilst Mr. Lance Calkin has two successful lady portraits in "Mrs. Edgar Holl" (161), and "Lady Euan-Smith" (238), the latter a really fine piece of work.

Mr. Philip Norman has done remarkably well in "Via Strozzi, Florence" (1), which is all the more valuable as the street is now destroyed. He has also two small pictures in the balcony. Mr. Logsdail gives two more welcome bits from Venice in "A Venetian Courtyard" (109), and "Santa Fosca, Venice" (142).

We leave to the last the veteran Mr. Holman Hunt's "Miracle of Sacred Fire in the Church of the Sepulchre, Jerusalem"

(80). It takes more than two pages of small type in the catalogue to explain it. It is a triumph of minute genius, but in no sense a true picture. Hundreds of figures are crowded together in a blaze of bright metallic colours. At a little distance it looks a square dish of badly-mixed fruit salad.



Some Old London Museums and Collections.

By G. L. APPERSON.

WILLIAM CHARLETON'S MUSEUM.

IN the seventeenth century there were many private collectors of coins, curiosities, and antiquities of all kinds. In the diaries of John Evelyn, Ralph Thoresby, and other noters of what to most folk were unconsidered trifles, there are frequent references to men whose cabinets were filled with shells, or dried plants, or coins, or curiosities of one kind or another, but of whom little more is now known than can be learnt from these casual allusions.

Among these somewhat obscure scholars and antiquaries, one name stands out from the rest, partly because more is known of its owner than of the others, and partly because this particular collector's accumulations passed into the possession of the omnivorous Hans Sloane, and so into the British Museum. This name is that of William Charleton, as he was long known to his contemporaries. "Charleton" was an assumed name. His real patronymic was Courten. William Courten, who was born in London, March 28, 1642, was descended from an ancient and honourable family. His grandfather was Sir William Courten, famous in his day for commercial enterprise, and his mother was a daughter of John, first Earl of Bridgewater. His father became insolvent in the year after his son's birth, 1643, and forthwith left England, to which he never returned. So far as is known he never saw his son again. Little is known of young

William Courten's education. Sir Hans Sloane says that from his earliest years he "did not regard the pomp of vanities of the world, but gave himself up to the contemplation of the works of God, whose infinite power, wisdom, and providence he saw and admired, in the creation and preservation of all things." It is certain that his interest in those studies and collections which later came to be associated with his name must have begun at a very early period of his life, for at the age of fourteen he was one of the donors to the museum of the famous Tradescants of Lambeth.

In the years which elapsed before Courten's definite return to London, where he took up his residence in chambers of the Middle Temple about 1684, comparatively little is known with certainty as to his movements. When he came of age he found his private affairs in a very entangled condition, and in order to avoid lawsuits and other vexations he appears to have changed his name to Charleton, and thenceforth to have lived much abroad. There is a very long account of the embarrassments and troubles in which his affairs were involved in Kippis's edition of the *Biographia Britannica*; but these details have now little interest. It is perfectly clear from his subsequent history that he always had the command of a sufficient supply of money.

Courten, or Charleton, as it will now be more convenient to call him, is supposed to have spent a considerable part of his long residence abroad at Montpellier, in the South of France, where the fine botanical garden was a special attraction. It was probably at Montpellier that he first met Hans Sloane. There is evidence also that he travelled far and wide through Europe, everywhere intent on his favourite studies, and everywhere purchasing freely for the private museum which after his settlement in London became so well known. His tastes were formed early, as we have seen by his gift to the Lambeth Museum. Many of his MSS. are in the British Museum, and among them are commonplace books which bear his real name, William Courten, and the date 1663, the year in which he came of age. These books contain notes on natural history, on numismatics, and on general

antiquarian matters. Kippis, who seems to have examined these MSS. with some care, says: "They abound with observations on animals, vegetables, and minerals, and with hints and directions for the preservation of natural productions, generally very curious, frequently, as this writer believes, original, but sometimes, and not seldom, noted from his reading, and it may be from oral information, for his own particular use."

Charleton, as has been already stated, is supposed to have taken up his permanent residence in the Temple in 1684; but it is certain that he had at least paid visits to London in earlier years. On May 11, 1676, for example, Evelyn, the diarist, dined with him, and afterwards by a curious coincidence went to see "Mr. Mountagu's new palace, now the British Museum, neere Bloomsbury, built by Mr. Hooke of our Society after the French manner"—the building in which Charleton's collections were afterwards to find a home.

The fame of Mr. Charleton's museum soon became noised abroad in the antiquarian world. Misson remarked that "Mr. Charlton's Cabinet of Curiosities is that which is most talk'd of at London"; and its owner—whom Evelyn describes as a modest and obliging person—had plenty of visits from great folk as well as from the *virtuosi*. On December 16, 1686, Mr. Evelyn took the Countess of Sunderland to see the collection, and the diarist declares that it exceeded any other he had seen at home or abroad, either of princes or of private persons. "It consisted," he says, "of miniatures, drawings, shells, insects, medailles, natural things, animals (of which divers, I think one hundred, were kept in glasses of spirits of wine), minerals, precious stones, vessells, curiosities in amber, cristall, achat, etc., all being very perfect and rare in their kind, especially his bookes of birds, fish, flowers, and shells, drawn and miniatur'd to the life." Charleton told his visitors that one of these books had cost him £300. The total value of the whole collection, according to Evelyn, was then estimated at £8,000; but the writer of the brief notice of Courten in the *Dictionary of National Biography* says that its estimated value was £50,000.

A year or two later, on March 11, 1690, Evelyn again visited the museum, which evidently fascinated him. And on this visit he remarked the peculiar appearance of the "*Thea roote*, which was so perplex'd, large, and intricate, and withall hard as box, that it was wonderfull to consider." Tea at this date was no absolute novelty—Mr. Pepys had made his famous diary entry recording his first taste of the cheering cup some thirty years earlier—but it was still sufficiently strange to make everything connected with the plant which produced the fragrant leaf of interest to lovers of curiosities. At the end of 1691 Evelyn was once more in the Middle Temple, and in recording the visit specially mentions the spiders, birds, "scorpions and other serpents," etc. It is clear that a private museum which contained medals and scorpions, coins and spiders, shells and birds, besides an infinite variety of other things, was not only extensive, but tolerably heterogeneous in character.

On May 22, 1695, Mr. Ralph Thoresby, another antiquary of inexhaustible curiosity, on the occasion of one of his visits to London, went in company with his brother and a Mr. Obadiah Walker to call upon Mr. Charleton, and was particularly interested in the "noble collection of Roman coins." "He has very choice of the Emperors," he wrote, "but the vast number of the Family, or Consular, was most surprising to me." Two days later, Thoresby, whose appetite had evidently simply been whetted by this cursory inspection, again visited Mr. Charleton, who, he says, "very courteously showed me his museum, which is, perhaps, the most noble collection of natural and artificial curiosities, of ancient and modern coins and medals, that any private person in the world enjoys; it is said to have cost him £7,000 or £8,000 sterling; there is, I think, the greatest variety of insects and animals, corals, shells, petrifications, etc., that ever I beheld. But I spent the greatest part of my time amongst the coins; for though the British and Saxon be not very extraordinary, yet his silver series of the Emperors and Consuls is very noble. He has also a costly collection of medals of eminent persons in church and state, domestic and foreign reformers. But before

I was half satisfied, an unfortunate visit from the Countess of Pembroke and other ladies from Court, prevented further queries," etc. One can sympathize with the enthusiastic student in his annoyance at being interrupted by the incursion of a bevy of Court ladies, whose conversation was probably irresponsible frivolity to the eminently sedate Thoresby.

Charleton was on terms of friendship with many well-known scholars and antiquaries of his day, and corresponded with many others whom he did not know personally. John Locke was one of his intimate friends. In the footnotes to his article on Charleton, or Courten, in the *Biographia Britannica*, Kippis prints a number of interesting letters from Locke to his friend, which testify to a very real degree of intimacy. Other friends were Dr. Martin Lister, Dr. Tancred Robinson, a famous Frenchman, Joseph Pitton de Tournefort, and Edward Llwyd, the Welsh scholar. Charleton appears to have been not only extremely liberal in showing his museum to the many curious and learned people who called upon him, but liberal also in gifts to other collectors. James Sutherland, Professor of Botany at Edinburgh, writing in September, 1702, to Dr. Richardson, the well-known botanist and antiquary of Bierley in Yorkshire, remarks: "While Mr. Charleton lived, I kept a constant correspondence with him; and he kept for me such duplicats of medals as came in his way and he thought I might want." The same correspondent, however, some months earlier, gently finds fault with his Temple friend's imperfections of packing. Writing to Dr. Richardson with regard to some coins the latter had promised to send him, he asks him to be careful "to wrap every single piece in a small bitt of paper, and pack all close in the box, that they may not jostle one on ane another and readily deface the coyn, as I lately found to my great losse in a parcell sent me from London by my most worthy friend, Mr. Charleton of the Middle Temple, to whose bounty I'm exceeding obliged." This letter was written very shortly before Charleton's death.

William Courten, or Charleton—his will was made in his own family name—died on March 26, 1702. The event was thus

announced in the *Post Angel* for March of that year: "March 27, 1702.—W. Charleton Esquire of the Middle Temple, eminently known for his fine collection of curiosities, viz., medals, shells, etc., died at the Gravel Pits at Kensington, and has left the foresaid curiosities to Dr. Sloan." No time was lost in transferring the contents of the museum from the Middle Temple to the custody of their new owner. Dr. Richardson, in a letter to Ralph Thoresby, written less than two months after Charleton's death, remarks that when visiting Dr. Sloane he had seen in his possession the collections from the Temple, which "lie all in confusion as yet, and will require some time to put them into order."

Sir Hans Sloane's collections, it is hardly necessary to say, formed the nucleus of the British Museum; and many of Charleton's coins and antiquities have found a permanent resting-place in the Bloomsbury galleries. His dried plants are now in the Natural History Museum at South Kensington. More than eleven years after Charleton's death, Ralph Thoresby noted in his Diary (August 10, 1714): "Wrote Mr. Courten's epitaph (commonly called Mr. Charlton, of the Temple, where he had a noble collection of curiosities, which he shewed me: *ast morti hæc non sunt curæ*;) in my walk." The walk was from the City to Kensington. Thoresby was an indefatigable worker.



Curiosities of and in our Ancient Churches.

BY HENRY PHILIBERT FEASEY.

I.

THE following notes are the "Harvest of a Curious Eye," collected at odd times in years that are past. That the curiosities described are all in existence *in situ* or un mutilated is too much, in these days of vandalism and restoration, to hope. Any incorrections, misdescriptions and other faults are therefore ready for the kind correction of any reader who knows the true aspect of things, or the

real circumstances of the case. A few years since the writer sought out a very handsome brass, but lo! it was gone, and the place thereof knew it no more. This may have happened to a hundred other things, and the whirligig of Time and change and weather truly worketh wonders, yet not so much as the destroying hand of man. If any of my readers can correct me I shall be very grateful, as also for any additional information which would tend to make such a collection as the following complete.

It is not my intention to deal with the more prominent of the structural peculiarities of our ancient churches, these features having been fully dealt with from time to time. The task which I have set myself is rather to collect the fragments passed over by those curiosity-feasters who have gone before me.

The questions of round churches, detached bell-towers, priests' chambers, hagioscopes and leper-windows have each received their due meed of attention, and will receive from me nothing more than a mere mention.

Four round churches only has the destroying hand of Time left to us, with the ruins of a fifth (Temple Bruerne, in Lincolnshire). The Temple Church in London is unanimously declared the finest of them all. The others are at Cambridge, Little Maplestead (in Essex), and Northampton. All are dedicated to the Holy Sepulchre, and are conjectured to produce the distinctive outlines of the church erected over the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, although there are some who see in them a survival of the ancient idea which prompted the erection of the Druidical circles, and point to the heavy solid cylindrical columns arranged in a semi-circle which constitute the sanctuary or east end of the Priory Church of Saint Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield. The same idea may be seen in the semi-circular apses which still exist at the east end of some of our old churches.

Round towers are yet very plentiful with us, it being computed that no less than 175 examples remain—of these two are in Berkshire, three in Cambridgeshire, two in Essex, one in Northamptonshire, one in Surrey, two in Sussex, and the rest in Norfolk and Suffolk.

The Church of the Holy Ghost, Wisby, of twelfth-century date, has a double nave; two

aisles of that of Pakefield served for two distinct parishes; Great Bardfield Church, Essex, has a triple chancel arch; and that of Hartley, Hampshire, a horse-shoe arch to the chancel. Rothwell Church, Northumberland, shares with a few other churches the peculiarity of a *triple piscina*. The churchyard of Cokethorpe, Oxfordshire, is said to have no defined boundary; the two churches of St. Martin and St. Mary, Trimley, Suffolk, belonging to different parishes, are in one churchyard; and that of St. Charles the Martyr, Tunbridge Wells, is in three parishes—the altar in Tunbridge, the pulpit in Speldhurst, the vestry in Frant.

The unique dedication of this church has for company those of Etchingham, Sussex (Assumption of our Lady), and Pulborough, in the same county (Our Lady of Assumption), as also those churches which, despite the strict injunctions of Bluff King Hal, still retain their dedications to St. Thomas-à-Becket.

Several mediæval churches still exist entire, desecrated to common use, as for instance St. Botolph, Ruxley, and St. Benedict, Paddlesworth, Kent, which are used as barns. In spite of our advance in the matter of roofing, many of our old churches and parts of churches, particularly those of Norfolk and Suffolk, still retain their old covering of thatch. To name a few thus furnished: Bitton, Eaton, Filby, Lugworth, Little Malton, Marlingford, Salhouse, Swafeld (nave), Thurgarton, Tivetshall St. Margaret's (chancel), Trimington (chancel), and Acle in Norfolk; Ashby, Bramfield, Barnby, Coney Weston, Cove—North and South (nave), Eriswell, Heston St. Mary, Icklingham St. James, Icklingham All Saints, Middleton, Pakefield, Ringsfield, Rushmore St. Michael, Theberton, Tritton and Westleton, in Suffolk; Coveney in Cambridgeshire, and Markby in Lincolnshire.

From straw on the roof to rushes on the floor is an easy descent. Lands were given or bequeathed by the pious to provide this floor-covering in perpetuity. On the Sunday after the Feast of St. Peter the church of Langham was strewn with grass, a small piece of land defraying the cost. At Old Weston, Hunts, and Wrigrom, Bucks, land was left that these churches might be strewn

with hay and rushes respectively on the feast Sunday. At Glenfield and Heybridge, Leicestershire, new hay was thus strewn on feast days, the profits of an acre of land being so employed from time immemorial. Middleton Church, Northampton, was strewn with hay in summer, the Rector finding straw in the winter. The hay was gathered from six or seven swathes in the "Ash Meadow." The aisles of Kirtlington Church in Oxfordshire were strewn on Midsummer Day with *new-mown* hay.

A seat in the porch of Lewanick Church, Cornwall, is supported by a piece of free-stone on which is sculptured a hare-hunt. On the north side of the porch of Edlingham Church, and at the gate of Duddingston Church, near Edinburgh, remains the stirrup-stone, "jossing," or mounting-block, a reminiscence of days prior to the introduction of the iron horse. On the stile giving entrance to the churchyard of Llanvair, Caerwent, South Wales, is inscribed the following doggerel, intimating the sure penalty for Sabbath-breaking:

Whoever hear on Sunday
Will Practis Playing at Ball,
It may be Fore Monday,
The Devil will Have you all.

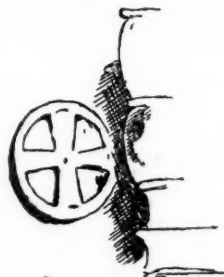
The church at Dedham, Essex, has a recess in the chancel provided with a chimney. At St. Michael's, near St. Albans, Herts, a portion of the south aisle is set off as a family pew, provided with fireplace and chairs of some comfort, probably the sinecure of the great man of the place. At St. Clement's, West Turrock, Essex, a square pew is likewise provided with a fireplace: all instances of a charitable provision for warming the church in winter on the principle of share and share alike, but nevertheless, as in the old man's dream of the next world "the biggest folks" are found "nearest the fire."

Westminster Abbey (1504), St. Mary's Chapel, Boston, St. Mary's Chapel (Austin Canons' Church), Norwich, and Windsor (until 1540) possessed staircases made after the pattern—and privileged as affording a composition for a visit to Rome—of the Sancta Scala (Scala Cœli).

On the right jamb of ancient church doorways occasionally may be detected a small,

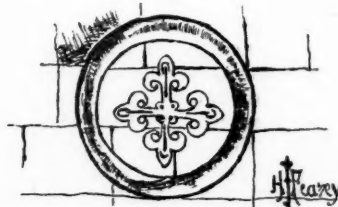
unobtrusive cross, forming no part of its ornamentation, and situated about 4 feet from the ground. These crosses, called DEDICATION CROSSES, are conjectured to have been first made at the dedication ceremony, and afterwards replaced in a more substantial form. Preston Church, Sussex, has two, one on either jamb. At Barfreston and Northfleet, Kent, a single one only exists. At the dedication, or rather consecration, of large edifices twelve such

Consecration Crosses.



EARLS BARTON. I

(Window South side of Tower)



EXETER CATHEDRAL · N. WALL NAVE
IN CLOISTERS.

crosses, representing the twelve Apostles, were placed within, and in some instances without, the church walls. They were sometimes coloured red. At some dedications twelve such crosses were marked on a single large stone and placed inside the church, as in Moorlinch Church, Dorsetshire, and New Shoreham Church, Sussex, where they are simply incised on the doorway.

Fine old examples of iron-bolted and strapped doors may be found in many of our

old churches; in some cases the hinges cover the whole woodwork. In the north aisle of York Cathedral is a massive arch-headed door studded all over at regular intervals with bolt-heads, and traversed across its width by two plain, flat, strap-like hinges. The door of the chapter-house, a good example of thirteenth-century work, is ornamented with a central stem of ironwork, and several large scrolls from which diminutive leaves branch out in all directions, and terminate at the top in dragon and lizard-like monsters. The minster church of Westminster still retains some of its heavy, massy-bound doors, one opening from the cloisters. In the north transept of Rochester is a fine example of an oaken door, its long plain hinges stretching out over it, and terminating at its outer edge in fleur-de-lys. Occasionally the hinges were gilt, and not laid directly on the wood, but on skin or scarlet felt, a method falling into disuse in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, when the doors became richly moulded and carved. Other examples of fine doors are at Ely Cathedral (south transept), returned after having been removed to Landbeach; at Durham, with its fine grotesque sanctuary knocker; St. Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield; St. George's, Windsor (*circa* twelfth century); Wells Cathedral (crypt door); Worcester Cathedral (preserved in the crypt). At Hickling, Nottinghamshire, and Little Hormead, Herts, the old doors have richly wrought hinges that completely cover them with ramified scroll-work, scarcely less admirable than those at Caistor, Lincolnshire; Staplehurst, Kent, and Weston, Suffolk. Old church doors sometimes have an additional ornament in the shape of a knocker. Reference will be made to the Durham knocker, which is a real sanctuary knocker. I say real, because other existing specimens are labelled as doubtful. The following churches have, or had, these knockers: St. Gregory in Pottergate, Norwich (detached some years ago and placed upon the vestry door); Greens-Desborough, Mickfield, Stonham Aspell, all in Suffolk; Whalley, Lancashire, and Rymarsh, Kent (*circa* 1480). The knocker and key-hole escutcheon at Bridstow Church, Hereford, of bronze, represents Samson destroying the Philistines.

It is the ascribed work of Giovanni de Bologna. The north-west door of St. Nicholas, Gloucester, has a curious handle, representing a fiend bearing the soul of a witch to the infernal regions. The lock of the south (chancel) door of Thornbury Church, Gloucester, is an interesting piece of medieval work, as is the massive key of the south door of Urswick Church, Lancashire, which bears traces of having once been gilt.

In some places there is a custom on the occasion of marriages not to leave the sacred edifice by the same door as that of entrance. Churchwarden's accounts occasionally have a charge similar to the following:

1555-56. *Ludlow*: "for mending lock of the wedding dore."

The south entrance of Norwich Cathedral bears a sculpture of the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

On rare occasions church doors have yet another and gruesome adornment, *i.e.*, of human skin. The old north fourteenth-century doors preserved in the crypt of Worcester Cathedral (removed hence in 1820) are said to be covered with human skin. A tradition is extant that it once was the personal property of a sacrilegious thief, who, appropriating to his own use the sanctus-bell, left his flayed skin behind in this prominent place as a warning to those who were tempted to do likewise. It is asserted by some that this was the terrible penalty not infrequently paid in the tenth and eleventh centuries by sacrilegious Danish marauders when caught plundering churches. Such a tanned skin with the massive nails still attached to it is preserved at Audley End. At Hadstock, in Essex, is a like covering under the ornamental ironwork; also at Copford in the same county, and upon the door of the Pyx Chapel at Westminster Abbey.

The skin at Hadstock is described as being of "enormous thickness," and as we know leather and felt were placed beneath the ironwork, there is the ghost of a chance of its having once adorned some animal *other* than man. Yet portions of the skins at Copford, Hadstock, Westminster, and Worcester, have been examined by eminent surgeons, who have pronounced them *human*.

In many cases the old priest's chambers,

or rooms over church porches, have been utilized both as armouries for the protection of the body, and as libraries for the cultivation of the mind.

Much of the so-called armour still remaining in churches is nothing but funeral gear. On the other hand, many examples of real armour exist, an Act having been passed at some unknown period (seventeenth century?) to the effect that every parish of a certain size should keep a certain quantity of armour in case of necessity for defence, and very naturally the church, as a rendezvous, became the depository for it. At Canterbury Cathedral an armoury with racks was constructed to hold weapons, and such a rack is mentioned in church inventories until the close of last century. In Rochester Cathedral were two or three buff coats and some old flint locks; in the Treasury of Norwich five head-pieces, evidently used, probably of the first quarter of the seventeenth century, and some flint lock guns of later date. In the accounts of the Dean and Chapter also appear entries of expenditure for keeping up the armoury. See the churchwardens' books of Fulham, Kingston, and Lambeth, for similar entries relating to parish or town armour and church harness. At St. Martin's, West Drayton, Middlesex, there was formerly a quantity of armour, consisting of helmets, coronets, gauntlets, spurs and emblazoned banners. Funeral armour—coats-of-arms—targe, sword, helmet, etc.—were offered at the burial of eminent people. In the funeral accounts of Sir Anthony Browne, standard-bearer to Henry VIII., there is a charge for the "brasses" (braces) of iron by which they were to be hung over his tomb.

Hanging in St. Michael, Carhayes, Cornwall, are rusty helmets, gauntlets, etc., of the Trevanian family, including the sword which tradition says was wielded by Sir Hugh Trevanian in the Battle of Bosworth Field. In the Assheton Chapel of Middleton Church, Lancashire, is some armour of Sir Richard Assheton, said to have been deposited by him on his return from Flodden, and dedicated to St. Leonard, the patron of the church. Slebeck, near Picton, South Wales, in past days an old commandery of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, possesses a unique curiosity in a sword used at the installation of the knights

of that Order. In East Grinstead Church, and that of St. Michael, Lewes, hang over their monuments respectively the funeral helmets of William, Lord Abergavenny (1745), and of Nicholas Pelham (1555).

The coign stones of Bywell St. Peter, Northumberland, and Chedzay, Somersetshire, are worn away by the sharpening of weapons.

Sacristies, I have read somewhere, were unknown to the clergy of the Middle Ages; but be this as it may, the oldest part of the church of Bishop Cannings, Devizes, is a little sacristy with a priest's room over, situated at the north-east corner of the chancel. An original vestry is likewise attached to the church of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, behind the altar, a distinction shared by few other churches—Hawkhurst, Kent, and Crewkerne, Somersetshire, among the number. The late Perpendicular vestry of Worsted St. Mary, Norfolk, dating about A.D. 1460, may be seen figured in Parker's *Glossary*. Lichfield, Chichester, and other of our cathedral churches have good examples of sacristies with lavatories, drains, and aumbries, and with either priest's or sacristan's chamber above. The sacristies of Bristol and Lincoln yet retain the fireplaces and ovens used of old in baking the altar-breads, and in the sacristy of Winchester are presses of oak for vestments, of the time of Prior Silkstede.

At the time of repair or restoration earthen jars or pots have been found imbedded in the walls, or beneath the floor at Derford, Northamptonshire; St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich; St. Michael's, Ipswich; Fairwell, Stafford, etc. These vessels are of red ware, glazed or unglazed, 8 inches high, with a 6-inch diameter at the mouth (St. Peter Mancroft). At Fairwell they were 4½ inches across the mouth, 24 inches in circumference, and about a foot high, and a smaller size, 3 inches, 16 inches, and 6 inches respectively. Those at St. Michael's, Ipswich, were ornamented with a handle. In one instance they were laid about 4 feet apart, the mouth flush with the wall face, and in another 6 feet from the ground in three ranges. In the Fairwell instance the mouth was stopped with a thin coating of plaster.

Church libraries began by bequest, and to secure them from pilfering fingers the books

were fastened by chains. Sir Thomas Lyttelton, Knight, "one of the King's Justices of the Common Peace," by his will dated August 22, 1481, thus bequeathed to the "Abbot and Convent of Hales Oweyn, a bok of myn called *Catholicon* to theyr own use for ever and another boke of myn, wherein is contaigned the *Constitutions Provincial*, and *De Gestis Romanorum*, and other treatis therein which I will be laid and bounded with an yron chayn, in som convenient parte within the saide Church at my costs, so that all preests and others may se and rede it when it pleasith them; also I bequeth a boke called *Fasciculus Morum*, to the Church at Enfield; also I bequeth a boke called *Medulla Grammatica*, to the Church of Kings Norton" (Nicholas, *Testamenta Vetusta*, vol. i., p. 367).

Dr. Roger Edgeworth, Canon and Chancellor of Wells Cathedral, bequeathed by his will dated December 24, 1559, "to Oriel College, Oxford, where I was sometime Fellow, all Chrysostom's works in five volumes, to be chained in the library of the said College, with 6s. 8d. for the chaining and arming of the same."

Wealthy incumbents in the latter half of the seventeenth century not unfrequently gave or bequeathed individual books, or collections of books, to their churches for the benefit of those who should come after. These parochial libraries or collections of books were subsequently considered of such importance that in 1708 (7 Queen Anne) an Act was passed intituled, "An Act for the Better Preservation of Parochial Libraries in that part of Great Britain called England." This Act, after reciting that in many places in the south parts of Great Britain, called England and Wales, the provision of clergy was so mean that the necessary expense of books for the proper prosecution of their studies could not be defrayed by them; and that of late years several charitable and well-disposed persons had by charitable contributions erected libraries within several parishes and districts in England and Wales; but that some provision was wanting to preserve the same, and such others provided in like manner, from embezzlement; it was enacted that in every parish where such a library was or should be erected, the same should be preserved for such as the same was or should

be given. Therefore certain regulations follow which order that upon the death or resignation of an incumbent the churchwardens are to secure the books till the induction of the new incumbent.

Consequently many of the books found in these libraries are mainly theological, frequently the whole or portions of the Scriptures and works of Erasmus (Paraphrase) Jewel, Fox, and other reformers, placed there by command of the King and his Council.

The books were sometimes stored in the vestries, sometimes in rooms over porches, etc. Such a library is in a room over the south porch at Totnes, Devon, and contains a good collection of weighty volumes on divinity. A catalogue of this curious collection of books appears in Wortley's *Ashburton and its Neighbourhood*, pp. 27-33. In a similar parvise chamber at Crediton, in the same county, is a library of nearly a thousand volumes, the collection of a former vicar. Some good old divinity and rare works are in the libraries of St. Michael's, Basingstoke, and Droxford St. Mary's, Hants; Grantham (founded 1598); All Saints, Lichfield; Great Yarmouth; Henley-on-Thames; Langley, Bucks (among them an early printed copy of the Sarum Missal); and the cathedral of Wells. At Durham is a copy of the Gospels in the presumed handwriting of Bede. Rare books and editions are often found in them. Thus in the library of Campsall Church, York, is an early copy of Sir Philip Sidney's *Arcadia*; in the library of Halifax Parish Church a fine copy of *De Lyra*. A valuable copy of Foxe's *Book of Martyrs*, in three volumes, published in 1684, is in the library at Little Petherick, on Wadebridge Road, Padstow, Cornwall. A black-letter copy of Foxe's *Book of Martyrs* is also preserved in a case in Lutterworth Church. Amongst the 300 books which constitute the library of Cartmell Priory Church, Lancashire, are, among other rare specimens of typography, a *Bible*, printed at Basle, 1511; an edition of *Thomas Aquinas*, printed in Venice in 1506, and an original copy of Spenser's *Fairy Queen*. The library of Shipdham Church, Norfolk, contained in a small room over the church porch, includes an illuminated *Psalter* of the fifteenth century. St. Nicholas Church, Great Yarmouth, in a glass case affixed to the wall, has

many old books, and among them a black-letter *Bible*, sometimes called Cranmer's, dated 1541; a *Breeches Bible*, dated 1582; and a *Vinegar Bible*, dated 1717. Many and sometimes all of the books in these libraries are chained, as at the library at Wimborne Minster, which contains *inter alia* a MS. of the *Directorium Pastorale*, containing on the fly-leaf the date 1343, a very early example of the use of Arabic numerals; and a copy of Raleigh's *History of the World*. It is believed to be the only complete library, and containing both rare and curious works, where all the books upon shelves have chains attached to them, fastened to iron rods or bars, and long enough to allow them to be placed, when read, on a high wooden desk made movable for the purpose. In the south aisle of Kingsteignton Church are many chained books, and at the parish church, Melton Mowbray, Foxe's *Book of Martyrs* and other books are chained to a table. The works of Foxe and Jewel are chained to one of the windows of Leyland Church, Lancashire. At Christchurch, Hants, the whole library of 100 volumes is all chained. Single copies of old black-letter Bibles chained to desks are more frequent. Lingfield Church, Surrey, has one, Hilmarton Church, Wilts, another, dated 1611. An antiphonarium of the fourteenth century, discovered hidden away in the roof of Springfield Church, Essex, is preserved in the Rectory. It was doubtless hidden by the priest on the passing of the Act 3 and 4 Edward VI., ordering the destruction of all such.

(To be continued.)



Mediæval Music.*

By J. E. MATTHEW.



THE subject of early music is so beset with difficulties that we have always been struck by the wisdom of Sir George Grove in fixing on the year A.D. 1450 as the point of departure

* *Mediæval Music: an Historical Sketch*. By Robert Charles Hope, F.S.A. Second edition, revised. London: Elliot Stock, 1899, 8vo.

for his *Dictionary of Music*, although it proved to be not the only limit given on the title which, during the progress of the work, it became necessary to enlarge.

Into this troubled sea Mr. Hope plunges in his *Mediæval Music*, a second edition of which he has lately brought out. The title of the work is very far from describing its full scope, for the author goes so far back into antiquity as the music of ancient Egypt, and devotes some space to that of Greece. Here, following the lead of the late Mr. William Chappell, he shows how slender are the claims of Boethius to be regarded as an authority on the art, in which he proved himself that worst of all guides—the teacher of a subject which he did not himself understand.

From an antiquarian point of view the interest of mediæval music centres in the origin of plain-song, commonly known as Gregorian music, from its supposed introduction by Gregory I. But there are those who have claimed for it a much higher antiquity, for it has even been stated that the Gregorian tones were the actual chants used in Solomon's Temple—a thesis which the Rev. Arthur Bedford set himself to prove in the year 1706, with much curious learning, in his *Temple Musick*. But without going back to such remote antiquity, it has been the custom to attribute the four "authentic" modes to St. Ambrose of Milan, and to Gregory I. the addition of the "plagal" modes, the compilation of the antiphonary, and the foundation of a school for choristers, during his papacy, which lasted from A.D. 590 to 604. Mr. Hope believes none of this, and in common with an authority so great as M. Gevaert, is disposed to attribute the compilation of the antiphonary to Gregory III., 731 to 741.

Apart from tradition, the claims of Gregory the Great depend on a statement made by John the Deacon, who wrote a life of St. Gregory in the year 880, *i.e.*, 276 years after the death of the Pontiff. It is obvious, therefore, that the writer had no actual authority for it, while the death of Gregory III. had occurred 139 years before he wrote, an interval quite long enough to obscure the real facts. Mr. Hope remarks also that in the works and correspondence of Gregory

the Great, which were published in three folio volumes (Paris, 1705), not one word occurs showing any interest whatever in the subject.

That music had its place in the service of the early Church we have, of course, ample evidence; but what was its nature, and by whom it was arranged and authorized must, we fear, remain conjectural. Strange to say, Mr. Hope makes no reference to the first solid fact which we meet with—the existence of the famed so-called Antiphonary of St. Gregory at the monastery of St. Gall. The history of this MS. is given by a monk of the same monastery known as Ekkeard IV., there having been previous members of the community of the same name. He wrote in the eleventh century, and the MS., forming part of the annals of the society, is still in their library.

The antiphonary put in order by Gregory the Great was looked on as so important that the MS. was carefully preserved in the Lateran as an authorized standard of the pure form of plain-song. Much variety of practice, however, existed in places to which this influence had not reached, and in the year 790 Charlemagne requested Adrian I. to send to Metz two persons versed in the true tradition. These were named Peter and Romanus, both well skilled in the art, and both were furnished with a copy of the precious antiphonary. On their journey Romanus fell ill, and was received and succoured in the monastery of St. Gall, where, with the permission of the Pope, he remained with his MS., the importance of which was so fully recognised that it was deposited in a "theca," or ark, specially constructed for the purpose.

This is the history of the antiphonary as given by Ekkeard. The MS., known as No. 359, at present existing in the library, which was sent over to England and exhibited in the Music Loan Exhibition at the Albert Hall in 1885, claims to be the actual MS. brought to the Abbey by Romanus. Let us see on what this claim is based.

It is evident that when Ekkeard wrote a MS. known as the Antiphonary of St. Gregory existed in the monastery, and that the chronicler believed it to be the identical copy brought by Romanus. He mentions in his account of the MS. that in it Romanus

first used, in addition to the neumes, certain "litteras alphabeti significativas"—letters designed to act as an indication of the style of performance. These letters appear in the existing MS. It is also to be noted that while the volume contains the feast of St. Gregory, who had just been canonized at the time of Romanus, it contains none for any saint of a date subsequent to the time of Adrian I., nor any for St. Gall, the patron of the congregation, which it probably would have had if compiled in the monastery. We need hardly add that the reverend Fathers of St. Gall pin their faith to the authenticity of their possession, as did Père Lambillotte, to whose efforts we are indebted for a facsimile of the antiphonary—executed unfortunately before photography was available, so that it has not the absolute authority of the excellent reproductions produced by the worthy Benedictines of Solesmes, or those of our own Plain-song Society.

It remains to consider the opinion of palæographers as to the age of the MS., and here the tradition somewhat breaks down. As we have stated, the volume was exhibited here in 1885, and as the authorities of the exhibition neglected entirely to provide anything approaching an adequate catalogue, Mr. W. H. J. Weale was induced by Mr. Quaritch to undertake the task. He describes the volume as consisting of eighty-one leaves, "but the primitive portion commences f. 12v., and ends f. 79v." This is admitted on all hands. Mr. Weale goes on to say: "Looking at the book from a liturgical point of view, it may very well date from the ninth century; judged by the writing and notation of the greater portion, it would appear to belong to a later rather than to the earlier portion of that century." Mr. Weale's authority on service books is so universally acknowledged, that we suppose his judgment must be accepted as final. But how is the discrepancy between Ekkeard's circumstantial account and the apparent age of the MS. to be reconciled? We confess ourselves unable to settle the question.

But this solid fact remains, that we have an antiphonary to which neumes have been added throughout, which is acknowledged to date from the latter part of the ninth century.

We look on Mr. Hope's explanation of neumes as somewhat meagre; in fact, we doubt if he sufficiently appreciates the results of the labours of earlier workers in that field, especially those of the Abbé Raillard, with whose "Explication des Neumes" he seems to be unacquainted. It is undoubtedly true, as Mr. Hope states, that neumes give no indication of pitch until they come to be combined with a line or lines, and then the staff soon followed. In their primitive use they represented certain sequences of notes, and were as well understood as the various "graces" were by the players of the time of J. S. Bach. The only clue to the actual position of these groups of notes was the varying distance at which they were placed above the words. But the melodies to the particular words were fixed and invariable, and as indissolubly connected in the minds of the singers of those days as the "Old Hundredth" Psalm and its familiar tune are to us, so that the very slightest indication was all that was required. It was the consideration of the invariability of the melody to the particular words which formed the basis of the Abbé Raillard's investigations. In his work will be found tables containing examples taken from a large number of manuscripts of the same subject arranged chronologically, so as to exhibit the gradual development of the neumes into the staff notation, leaving no doubt that the true interpretation is arrived at. It is only fair to Mr. Hope to add that he gives an excellent explanation of Hucbald's system of notation, and of some other attempts to the same end. He has also an excellent chapter on mediæval attempts at harmony, some of which are almost too horrible to contemplate, and also a chapter on the early time-table, which we always have looked on as specially devised to make the subject difficult.

In conclusion we can most heartily congratulate Mr. Hope on having got together an amount of information and learning widely scattered among books not generally available, with the result that he has given us a work which will be found most useful by any who may wish to become acquainted with this difficult subject.



Antiquarian News.

[We shall be glad to receive information from our readers for insertion under this heading.]

THE annual meeting of the trustees of Shakespeare's Birthplace was held, on May 5, at Stratford-on-Avon, Sir Arthur Hodgson presiding. The committee reported that during the year over 24,000 persons had paid for admission to Shakespeare's house, representing thirty-five different nationalities, and over 10,000 had visited Ann Hathaway's cottage at Shottery. The trustees had purchased a first folio of Shakespeare at a total cost of over £600. A second folio copy had been presented by Sir Theodore Martin, and Mr. Ernest E. Baker, of Weston-super-Mare, had presented to the trustees a copy of a work written by Shakespeare's son-in-law, Dr. Hall, bearing on the fly-leaf the author's autograph.

Mr. C. R. Ashbee, chairman of the Committee for the Survey of the Memorials of Greater London, is making an appeal for the preservation of Tudor House, one of the last remaining of the Elizabethan houses of Bromley, a building in part of the early portion of Elizabeth's reign, and containing much beautiful work of the period, besides being connected with the Scotch colony planted in Bromley by James I. This house, with the extensive grounds adjoining, has now come into the hands of the County Council, and, while the Historic Buildings Committee have recorded it for preservation, the Parks and Open Spaces Committee have, says Mr. Ashbee, determined that it shall be destroyed. As the house does not interfere with the open space, and would be useful as a home for the Council's servants, Mr. Ashbee's committee urges that the advice of experts in favour of preserving the building should be adhered to.

Some interesting discoveries have lately been made with reference to the former water-supply of the Metropolis. Excavations near the Marble Arch and along Oxford Street have laid bare a number of wooden water-pipes, in a remarkable state of preservation. The depth at which they are found varies from 2 to 3 feet, the former amount of covering apparently furnishing but moderate protection from a phenomenal frost, though wood might afford a better defence against cold than would be the case with iron. The wood was in all cases either elm or oak, in lengths ranging between 4 and 15 feet. Wooden waterpipes date back at least to the time of Peter Morrys, an ingenious Dutchman who, in 1581, obtained the consent of the Corporation to erect a water-wheel under one of the arches of London Bridge. The London Bridge Waterworks thus established kept up a considerable supply for 200 years. In the days of Sir Hugh Myddelton and the New River supply, dating from 1613, the same mode of distribution was continued, though the New River was drawn upon instead of the Thames.

SALES.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON, AND HODGE sold on Monday last valuable MSS. from the Appendix collection formed by the late Earl of Ashburnham, and recently sold privately to a gentleman. High prices were realized, some of the chief of which follow: Biblia Sacra, fourteenth century, £125; another of the eleventh century, £146. Evangelia Quatuor, twelfth century, £110. Horæ B.V.M., with five miniatures, sixteenth century, £300. Biblia Sacra, fourteenth century, from the Escorial Library, £120. Froissart, Chroniques, fifteenth century, miniatures, £151. La Vie des Saints, par Jean de Vignay, with miniatures, fourteenth century, £120. Ven. Bedæ Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum, eighth century, £230. Officia Liturgica, etc., fine miniatures, formerly in Dennistoun's collection, fifteenth century, £467. Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, fourteenth century, £130. Evangelia Quatuor, ninth century, £121. York Miracle Plays, fifteenth century, £121. Chroniques de Monstrelet, fifteenth century, £100. The Troy Book of Guido Colonna, fifteenth century, £142. Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, fifteenth century, Dalisson copy, £100. Sahih Muslim, Traditions of Mahomet, vellum MS. in Arabic, eleventh century, £170. Officia Liturgica, miniatures, fifteenth century, £167. Another Codex of the Canterbury Tales, imperfect, fourteenth century, £101. Evangelium S. Matthæi cum Expositione Rabani Mauri, ninth century, £166. Evangeliarium, twelfth century, with fine miniatures, £300. Wycliffe's Bible, later version, Bramhall MS., complete copy, fully described by Professor Skeat, £1750. The 177 lots composing the day's sale reached the sum of £8,595 5s.—*Athenæum*, May 6.

Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge sold yesterday a portion of the library of the late Mr. Henry Rutter, of Warrington Crescent. The more important lots were as follows: Horæ Beatæ Mariæ Virginis, an illuminated MS. of the fifteenth century, by a French scribe, with thirteen large miniatures of scenes in the life of the Virgin and twelve smaller ones of saints, £50 (Young); another of the same period, and also by a French artist, with seventeen highly-finished miniatures in the text, £10 15s. (Tregaskis). F. Blomefield and C. Parkin, History of the County of Norfolk, 1805-10, a fine copy on large paper, £20 10s. (Hitchman). Sir W. Dugdale, Monasticon Anglicanum, 1817-30, edited by Caley, Ellis, and Bandinel, £21 (Young). E. Hasted, History and Survey of the County of Kent, 1788-99, the original edition, £19 (Ridler). G. Lipscombe, History and Antiquities of the County of Buckingham, 1847, on large paper, £16 (Sotheran). S. Shaw, History and Antiquities of Staffordshire, 1798-1801, large paper, £18 10s. (Daniell). R. Surtees, History and Antiquities of Durham, 1816-40, J. Raine, North Durham, 1852, £18 10s. (Sotheran). The sale realized about £600.—*Times*, May 5.

PUBLICATIONS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

WE have received part liii., vol. xxi., of *Archæologia Eliana*, issued by the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. It is largely occupied with historical matter. There are three papers by C. S. Terry, M.A., on "The Visits of Charles I. to Newcastle in 1633, 1639, and 1646-47," "The Scottish Campaign in Northumberland and Durham between January and June, 1614," and "The Siege of Newcastle by the Scots in 1644." Among the other contents of this substantial part may be named a fully-illustrated "Catalogue of Exhibition of Silver Plate of Newcastle Manufacture, May 19 to 21, 1897"; a paper on "Northumbria in the Eighth Century," by the Rev. Canon Savage; shorter illustrated papers on "The Caervoran Inscription in Praise of the Syrian Goddess," by T. Hodgkin, D.C.L., F.S.A., and "The Bastle House at Doddington, Northumberland," by W. H. Knowles, F.S.A.; and a brief "Obituary Notice," with portrait, of the late Rev. E. H. Adamson.

The *Transactions of the Glasgow Archæological Society*, New Series, vol. iii., part ii., have reached us. Among the papers in a part of unusual interest may be mentioned the long and valuable "Annals of the Solway until A.D. 1307" (illustrated by five maps), by George Neilson, F.S.A. Scot.; Professor Ferguson's third supplement to his "Bibliographical Notes on Histories of Inventions and Books of Secrets"; Professor Story's "Two Champions of the Covenant"; "Yule and Christmas: their Place in the Germanic Year," by Alexander Tille, Ph.D.; "Torphichen and the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem in Scotland," by John Edwards, F.S.A. Scot.; "St. Kessog and his Cultus in Scotland," by J. M. Mackinlay, F.S.A.; and "Recent Archæological Discoveries in the Parish of Lesmahagow," by James Young.

PROCEEDINGS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—April 13.—Viscount Dillon, president, in the chair.—Mr. P. G. Stone exhibited a wooden ballot-box and balls, one of a pair made for the Corporation of Newport, I.W., in 1621; also a wooden collecting-box, dated 1635, belonging to Newport parish church.—Mr. Greg exhibited a brass collecting-box, dated 1649, from Brittany.—Mr. C. E. Keyser read some notes descriptive of an early series of wall-paintings lately uncovered in Stowell Church, Gloucestershire, representing the twelve Apostles and other subjects.—Mr. John Parker, local secretary for Bucks, read a paper on "The Desecrated Church of St. Mary, Stoke Mandeville," an interesting mediæval building, lately dismantled as to its fittings, and now open to injury from any passer-by.

April 20.—Sir H. H. Howorth, vice-president, in the chair.—Mr. H. D. Ellis exhibited a silver coffeepot with the London hall-marks for 1692, being the earliest example at present known, and read some notes on the various changes of form the coffeepot

has since undergone.—Mr. Talfourd Ely read a paper (illustrated by lantern-slides) on "The Bearded Type of Apollo," showing that as other Greek deities were originally represented with beards, though afterwards as youthful, so, too, there was in early times a conception of Apollo as wearing a beard. The chief evidence for this is derived from archaic vases.—Mr. Somers Clarke communicated a report, as local secretary for Egypt, recording (1) the work on the great dam at Assuan, and (2) the effect of the reservoir on the ruins at Philæ; (3) the question of the safety or removal of inscribed works within the area of the reservoir; (4) a description of the little-known fortresses at Semneh, and (5) of other fortresses between Semneh and Wady Halfa; (6) the work of the Egyptian Research Account at Kom el Ahmar; (7) the repair of the Temple of Karnak; (8) the administration of the Department of Antiquities; and (9) Christian antiquities in the district of the Second Cataract.—*Athenæum*, May 6.

May 4.—Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite, vice-president, in the chair.—Before opening the proceedings, the chairman referred to an accident in the shape of a bad fall, followed by slight concussion of the brain, which had temporarily deprived them of the presence of the president, but the latest news from Lady Dillon was that her husband was making satisfactory progress, and able to leave his bed for some hours daily.—Mr. W. H. St. John Hope and Mr. G. E. Fox submitted a report on the excavations carried out on the site of the Romano-British city at Silchester in 1898. These excavations, Mr. Hope pointed out, had now been carried on systematically for the last nine years, and had resulted in the exploration of considerably more than half of the 100 acres within the walls. Operations in 1898 had been confined to the south-west corner of the city, where an area of 8 acres had been dealt with. This had been found to contain two *insulae*, which have been numbered XIX. and XX., and a large triangular piece south of them, which appeared in part to have belonged to Insula XVIII., excavated in 1897. Insula XIX. presented the unusual feature of being completely enclosed by walls. It contained a small house and two other minor buildings, as well as a well-planned house of the largest size, built round a courtyard, and having attached to it what seemed to be the remains of a tannery. The winter rooms of the house were warmed by an interesting series of hypocausts. Beneath the courtyard were laid bare the traces of a still older house, the exceptional features of which were subsequently described by Mr. Fox. Insula XX. contained two small houses and a number of other buildings, but not of any particular interest or importance. The area south of the *insulae* was singularly devoid of all traces of occupation, and seemed for the most part to have been open or waste ground. A certain number of wells and rubbish-pits had been found in both *insulae*, but the various objects recovered from them and the trenches did not call for any special remark.—Mr. G. E. Fox then proceeded to describe the remains of the early house referred to as lying in the courtyard of house No. 2, Insula XIX. The interest in these remains, he said, consisted in

the fact that they showed a building of half-timber construction. Such construction was not entirely unknown at Silchester, as indications of wooden partitions in masonry-built houses had been detected, but entire buildings of this kind had not as yet been found on the site. The house was of the corridor type, with its range of chambers on the western side. All the floors were laid with the usual red tile tesserae, except in one small room, and in the northernmost chamber, which had the remains of a finely enriched pavement. Mr. Fox mentioned, for purposes of comparison, instances of timber construction to be found in buildings at Darenth, in Kent, and in the City of London, and spoke of the internal details and arrangements of such buildings. He then described the mosaic pavement of the northernmost chamber. Though only part of this floor, he observed, remained, enough was left to make a restoration of its main features, and this restoration was shown by means of lantern-slides made for the purpose. He called attention to the fact that in design the pavement differed totally from the general run of Romano-British mosaic, in which variously disposed lines of braid-work form the most conspicuous portions. In this composition the noticeable features are delicate arabesques resembling friezes found among the wall-paintings of Pompeii, and a huge scroll of black leafage on a white ground, strongly resembling the leaf borders to be seen on Greek painted vases dating about 300 B.C. The different flowers to be detected in conventionalized forms in the arabesques were next spoken of, and the materials detailed of which the tesserae used in the pavement were composed. These materials were derived either from brick or terra-cotta of different colours, or from natural rocks of this country, none being of foreign origin. The one marble employed was Purbeck, and this was freely used to produce a greenish-grey, with excellent effect, while the white cubes of the general ground were of as common a substance as the hardened chalk of Corfe. Mr. Fox concluded by remarking that both house and pavement, to judge more especially from the style of the latter, could scarcely be later in date than 80 or 90 A.D., and might be earlier, and in all probability the dwelling was the principal one of a straggling village beside a native British road. This village developed in the course of time into the town known by the name of Calleva Atrebatum.—*Athenæum*, May 13.



ROYAL ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, general meeting, May 3, Sir Henry Howorth, K.C.I.E., M.P., president, in the chair.—Chancellor Ferguson, F.S.A., exhibited photographs of a large door-lock in the Tullie House Museum, Carlisle. No history is known of this lock. It is 2 feet 1 inch in length and 7 inches in breadth. It is classified according to its construction as a warded spring draw-back lock with three bolts. A keyhole is seen on both the front and the back of the lock, but they are not opposite to one another—in fact, the lock contains duplicate sets of works or wards, one set in advance of the other, and probably belonged

to the door of a strong room.—Dr. Wickham Legg, F.S.A., read a paper on the account in English of the anointing of the first King of Prussia, in 1701. After pointing out the use of oil in the projected coronation of Oliver Cromwell, and in the coronations of the Kings of Bohemia, Sweden, and Denmark since the Lutheran Reformation, the paper dealt with a document formerly belonging to Gregory King, Rouge Dragon, which was a version into English of the German official programme of the anointing of the first King of Prussia in 1701. It was noted that the King crowned himself and then the Queen in the castle at Königsberg, as a civil ceremony, followed in the church by the anointing as an ecclesiastical ceremony. A transcript of the English version accompanied the paper.—The Rev. W. G. Clark-Maxwell read a paper on "The Roman Towns in the Valley of the Boëtis," being a record of six months' investigation of the Roman sites, etc., on the banks of the Guadalquivir between Cordova and Seville. After contrasting the thickly-populated condition of the country in Roman times, as evidenced by the abundant traces of their occupation, with its present scanty population and neglected appearance, he described his method of investigation, which was to walk along the river-bank, noting and marking on a map those places which presented evidences, such as bricks, etc., and "tierra de villar," of Roman settlement—remains of more extensive buildings perhaps representing the "latifundia" of classical times, and such large collections of fragments of amphoræ or kilns as to suggest the site of a potter's workshop. He then gave a more particular account of the tentative excavations carried on at Peña flor, Peña de la Sal, and Alcolea, the modern representatives of Celti, Arva, and Canana. A certain number of new inscriptions were discovered, while others were verified. A large number of amphora handles, bearing stamps, were picked up, many of the stamps being the same as occur in other places, notably among the débris of which Monte Testaccio, in Rome, is composed. Mr. Clark-Maxwell was of opinion that these were mostly made in Boëtica to contain the produce of that region when exported to Rome. A number of graves built of bricks and tiles were discovered, which from their situation, orientation, and absence of objects deposited with the bodies, might be referred to the Christian period. At Alcolá del Rio, the Roman walls of concrete partly remain, as well as the ruined fragments of quays and river-walls, which bear evidence to the forgotten time when the Boëtis was a highway of commerce.—The Rev. E. S. Dewick, Mr. F. Spurrell, and Mr. Herbert Jones took part in the discussion on the above papers.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The tenth meeting of the session was held on April 19, Mr. Blashill, hon. treasurer, in the chair.—The hon. secretary, Mr. Patrick, announced that the congress would be held at Buxton, from July 17 until the 22nd.—Mr. Dack, of Peterborough, read a paper on "Old Peterborough Customs and their Survival." He said that Peterborough, the city of

Fens, has, perhaps, more curious old customs still surviving than any other city in England. The Fens naturally lent themselves to the growth of superstition, and many of the habits and practices dealt with in the paper perhaps had their origin in the desire to scare away the evil spirit supposed to haunt the Fens. The curfew-bell is still rung at Peterborough, and the cathedral is thought to be the only one where the old and correct order of processions is properly formed. The magistrates of Peterborough are proud of possessing the privilege of condemning a murderer to death without sending him to the assizes for trial by judge and jury. The privilege is said to be recognised, but should it ever be exercised, a special Act would be passed to do away with it. No execution has taken place in Peterborough since the commencement of this century. Until about thirty-five years ago a sedan-chair was in constant use to convey old ladies to church, concert, or party. The chairman belonged to a family who had been chairmen for many generations. An interesting document was exhibited by Mr. Dack, being the "Bailliff of the city of Peterboroughs rite to return members to serve in Parliament," dated 1728.—The Rev. H. J. D. Astley, hon. secretary, read a paper by Miss Russell on "Some Recent Observations on the Vitrified Forts and Drystone Brochs in the North of Scotland and Elsewhere." The paper elicited considerable discussion, the chairman remarking that it was not the first time that the subject of vitrified forts had been brought before the association, but more evidence of the vitrification was required. Mr. Gould remarked that they were not necessarily to be taken as early work; in several instances pieces of Roman tile had been found in their construction.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.—The last of the monthly meetings of this society for the present session was held in their library at the National Museum of Antiquaries yesterday, Sir Arthur Mitchell, K.C.B., M.D., LL.D., in the chair.—Papers were read by Mr. John Bruce, F.S.A. Scot., Helensburgh, on the excavation of a pile-structure, situated near the Hill of Dumbuck, on the north bank of the Clyde; by Mr. David Marshall, F.S.A. Scot., on the Record Room of the City of Perth; by Mr. F. C. Eeles on two missals, one of which had belonged to the parish church of St. Nicholas, Aberdeen, and the other to Inveravon, in the Diocese of Moray; by Sir Arthur Mitchell, on pin-making as a home industry; and by Mr. R. C. Walker, on an old iron door-knocker, bearing the date of 1682.—Miss M. A. Murray gave a classified description in their chronological order of the Egyptian antiquities in the National Museum.—*Scotsman*, May 9.

The monthly meeting of the GLASGOW ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY was held on April 20, the Very Rev. Principal Story presiding.—Mr. J. T. T. Brown, writer, read a paper by Mr. George W. Campbell on "The Seals of Glasgow University," tracing from the first seal of 1453 the changes and

the new seals instituted at various times for the University and the Deans of Faculties, the seal *ad causas*, and the Great Seal. He had five or six fine drawings of the early seals, which were exhibited to the meeting.—Professor Young, M.D., read a paper on "Collections of Medical Receipts by (1) the last Abbot of Westminster; (2) a Rector of Minchinhampton; (3) the Pastor of Westbury, Wilts."—Mr. P. Macgregor Chalmers read a paper on "The Early Fabric of the Cathedral," with notes of his recent excavations.



The ordinary monthly meeting of the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE was held on April 26, Mr. Sheriton Holmes, treasurer, being in the chair.—Mr. Horatio A. Adamson exhibited the original subscription list of the proposed suspension-bridge between North and South Shields, also plans, elevations, etc. (1825).—Chancellor Ferguson, F.S.A., exhibited a small white clay figure of Venus, about 6 inches high, found a short time ago in Carlisle.—Mr. Blair, one of the secretaries, read a letter from Mr. G. May, of Simonside Hall, and dated February 6 last, relating to ancient coal workings: "As to the use of coal by the Romans in South Shields, I think they must have got it from the north side of the river, where there are many ancient workings close to the surface. I saw some very ancient workings the other day a few feet from the surface at Billy Mill. The coal on the south side of the river is much too deep for the ancients, and I think they must have brought it across the river. I have a record of coals being carted from North Shields to Color-coats for shipment."—Mr. P. Brewis read a paper on "Four Ferara Swords having Basket-hilts, commonly known as 'Claymores,' with a Few Notes on Andrea Ferara." He said these swords were commonly known as claymores. It was in Venice that the basket-hilted sword first came into regular use. They were still used in our Highland regiments. Ferara made a reputation for sword-making in Italy, yet there were very few of his swords in that country. In Scotland, where Ferara probably never was, there were hundreds; but that was perhaps accounted for by the fact that Ferara blades were originally common all over Western Europe. They might also conclude that other makers adopted his name when he died. His name was traded on just as that of Wallsend coal was in London.—The Chairman said they were highly indebted to Mr. Brewis for going so clearly into the subject, which added considerably to the interest of the swords in the society's collection.—Thanks were voted to Mr. Brewis by acclamation on the motion of Mr. Clephan, seconded by Mr. Gibson.



Reviews and Notices of New Books.

[Publishers are requested to be so good as always to mark clearly the prices of books sent for review, as these notices are intended to be a practical aid to book-buying readers.]

THE MUNICIPAL PARKS, GARDENS, AND OPEN SPACES OF LONDON: THEIR HISTORY AND ASSOCIATIONS. By Lieut.-Col. J. J. Sexby, V.D. With 185 illustrations. Cloth, 8vo., pp. xx, 646. London: Elliot Stock, 1898. Price one guinea.

Colonel Sexby's handsome volume will probably surprise some readers who may think they know their London fairly well. The royal parks, whose history and associations have been the subject of an extensive literature, have no place in the book, which confines itself to such parks and open spaces as are under the control of the London County Council. It is certainly surprising to find that Colonel Sexby has dealt with no less than fifty-two of these spaces, besides certain churchyards and small playgrounds. At the present moment negotiations are going on with a view to the acquisition for the public of several other places, varying in size from an estate of 16½ acres at Wells Road, Upper Sydenham, to much smaller grounds, so that it will not be long before there will be room for some supplementary chapters to the present valuable book. The author briefly describes each place, gives an account of the steps which led to its acquisition—including much matter derived from private and legal documents hitherto unpublished—and deals fully with its previous history and associations.

With regard to some of the larger and better-known parks and spaces, such as Hampstead Heath, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Leicester Square, and the like, Colonel Sexby is on tolerably familiar soil; but in many other cases he breaks fresh ground.

It would puzzle not a few Londoners, for instance, to give the whereabouts of such open spaces as Shoulder of Mutton Green, Maryon Park, Myatt's Fields, Island Gardens, and others which might be named. Concerning the whole fifty-two the author discourses pleasantly and instructively. We hear, of course, of Dr. Johnson at Tooting, of Coleridge and many others at Highgate, of Hogarth and Sir Joshua Reynolds in Leicester Square; and in the more unfamiliar places we meet with Mr. Pepys at Island Gardens, Poplar; with Henry VIII.'s favourite Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, at Bostal Heath; with the Minet family at Myatt's Fields—in fact, every chapter abounds with matter of literary or historical or antiquarian interest. Colonel Sexby may be congratulated on having made a contribution of no small interest and value to the literature of London topography. The book is handsomely "got up," and has a good index. There are many illustrations taken from photographs and sketches and drawings, from old plates and facsimiles. One of Andrew Marvell's Cottage,



ANDREW MARVELL'S COTTAGE.

*From a photograph]**[taken in 1848.*

which formerly stood on the site of Waterlow Park, from a photograph taken in 1848, is reproduced on this page.

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RECORDS OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF CARDIFF.
 Edited by John Hobson Matthews. Published
 by order of the Corporation. Sold by *Elliot*
Stock. Vol. I.

Cardiff has followed the excellent example of Northampton, and is publishing at its own expense the records of the borough.

The idea originated in 1893, owing to difficulties that arose with respect to the public lands of the borough. At that time the Corporation decided to have a *précis* prepared of all charters, deeds, and documents in the custody of the Corporation relating to the lands, as well as of all charters, etc., not in the possession or custody of the Corporation.

This resulted in the employment of Mr. J. H. Matthews, solicitor, of Cardiff, to not only arrange and transcribe the public records of the municipality in the custody of the Town Clerk, but to thoroughly search for additional information at the Public Record Office and British Museum. The result of all this labour, together with an examination of the muniment-rooms of several county families, resulted in the accumulation of so large an amount of historic material that the Corporation wisely entrusted Mr. Matthews with the duty of publishing the most valuable and interesting portions. Nothing has apparently escaped the attention of Mr. Matthews that could be gleaned from public or private archives.

This first volume is eminently satisfactory, and if the remainder of the work is continued after the same fashion, Cardiff will, beyond doubt, possess the best chronicle of municipal records hitherto issued.

Ever since the Roman legions subdued South Wales, Cardiff has been a place of considerable note. "As far back as British history extends, Cardiff has been the capital town of a province rich in natural resources, and her inhabitants secured for themselves at a very early period definite constitutional rights, liberties, or privileges." The earliest extant record (obviously not the first written document) is a formal statement of the liberties granted by Robert and William, Earls of Gloucester, some time before 1147, to the burgesses of Cardiff and Tewkesbury alike. The second charter is that granted by Edward II. to the burgesses in 1324. There are six other charters of that century, seven of the fifteenth century, two by Queen Elizabeth, one by James I., and one by James II.

The Latin of the charters has been wisely expanded, but there are five admirable facsimiles of the earlier charters, which will amply suffice to gratify the yearning of a few antiquarian students for exact transcripts. In addition to these plates, there is an illustration of the beautiful seal of Hugh le Despenser, 1340, with a heraldic shield on the reverse. This was well worth illustrating, but it was a complete waste of money to give the almost obliterated seal of Edward III., when so many fine examples exist. The seals of the Fraternity of the Holy Trinity, Cardiff, *circa* 1450, with others that

appear on the same plate, were worthy of reproduction; but we could easily have spared some other illustrations, particularly the plate that gives us the likenesses of the six gentlemen of the Corporation who formed the Records Committee. We admire them as public-spirited gentlemen of the right type, and have no criticism to offer with regard to the comeliness or otherwise of their features; but surely they are singularly out of place in a handsome volume on mediæval Cardiff. Moreover, if we are to have modern likenesses, we should have preferred to look upon the face of Mr. Matthews, who has accomplished so good a work, rather than the faces of the men who merely gave him his instructions.

In addition to the municipal charters, there is a valuable series of extracts from Ministers' Accounts from 1263 to 1550. *The Inquisitions postmortem* yield valuable material from 1296 to 1601. Another section gives Star Chamber Proceedings relative to Cardiff from 1538 to 1597. The Domestic State Papers supply a few valuable local facts between 1565 and 1666, but they are far sparser than might have been expected.

The Records of the Land Revenue yield a specially interesting series of documents about the year 1558, relative to the doings of the reformers at Llandaff and the neighbourhood. The Inventory of the Church Goods of Llandaff Cathedral is exceptionally full. The seventh section treats of Exchequer Documents from 1571 to 1726, and the concluding chapter deals with the Patent Rolls from 1488 to 1616.

It is but the simple truth to say that this volume is not only of value to all interested in the history of Cardiff and South Wales in general, but is of distinct worth to those who wish to follow up the history and development of municipal life anywhere in England and Wales. It also gives practical proof of the exceeding value of many of our national records that have hitherto been but little consulted by local annalists.

The type, paper, and binding of this volume reflect much credit on all concerned in its publication.

J. CHARLES COX, LL.D., F.S.A.

HISTORY OF CORN MILLING. Vol. II: *Watermills and Windmills*. With numerous illustrations. By Richard Bennett and John Elton. London: *Simpkin, Marshall and Co., Limited*; Liverpool: *Edward Howell*, 1899. 8vo., pp. xvi, 343. Price not stated.

The first volume of this comprehensive work dealt with Handstones, Slave and Cattle Mills. The larger section of the instalment before us deals with watermills, the smaller with windmills; and both are characterized by the same painstaking thoroughness that marked the former volume. We regret that it is impossible in the space at our disposal to give this book as full and detailed a notice as its importance and the varied nature of its contents deserve. Perhaps the best way to indicate its scope will be briefly to rehearse the leading subdivisions of its subject-matter. The section relating to the watermill opens with a brief chapter on theories, more or less speculative as to

its origin. Then come chapters on the Greek Mill (horizontal type)—a type traced as surviving in Mediæval Greece, in Syria in 1668, and doubtfully in France in 1588; the Norse Mill (horizontal type), ranging from Norway and Wales to Roumania and China; the Roman Mill (vertical type); the Floating Mill; the Early Continental Mill; Introduction of Watermills into Britain; Domesday Mills; the Modern Watermill; and the Tide Mill. The chapter on Domesday Mills contains a great mass of information drawn from the famous record, and includes a schedule of places, county by county, where mills are mentioned in the Survey as existing. The number of mills at each place is stated, with the rentals so far as they are given. "The lists," say the authors, "will be found to contain the names of numerous places, as that of Pangebourne, Berkshire, where ancient watermills still exist; and where undoubtedly, therefore, milling has been continuously conducted from Saxon times." This schedule fills fifty pages.

The chapters of the book which treat of windmills deal with Myths of Origin, The Earliest Record, Soke of Windmills, The Tripod Post Mill, Removals of Tripod Mills, The Sunk Post Mill, The Turret Post Mill, Post Mills in the Wars, The Tower Mill, "Who owns the Wind?" and The Horizontal Windmill. The whole volume is full of information largely drawn direct from original sources, and set forth in an interesting manner. The illustrations are numerous and good, and there is a capital Index. Two more volumes are promised in order to complete the history of corn-milling—one on "Feudal Laws and Customs of Mills," and the other on "Some Famous Feudal Mills, with the Laws, Customs and Assizes of Bread-Baking."

DIZIONARIO DI ABBREVIAZIONI LATINE ED ITALIANE usate nelle carte e codici specialmente del medio-evo riprodotte con oltre 13,000 segni incisi . . . per cura di Adriano Cappelli. Milano: *Ulrico Hoepli*, 1899. 8vo., pp. 433. Price, lire 7.50.

This volume, daintily bound in white vellum covers, contains a very complete alphabetical list of the abbreviations used in mediæval shorthand, with their Latin and Italian equivalents.

Whether such a work was needed is best answered by the fact that Signor Hoepli has included it in his excellent series of Manuals.

The compiler, who holds the post of State Archivist in Milan, has had the benefit of the labour of many workers in the same field, from Ludolfi Walther in the last century, whose *Lexicon Diplomaticum* was published in 1756, down to Signor Zanino Volta, whose *Delle abbreviature nella paleografia latina* was published in Milan in 1892. There are at least a dozen other excellent and valuable works of a similar kind that appeared between these dates, but they are mostly planned on a larger and more ambitious scale than the present handy little volume, whose dimensions would certainly permit of its being slipped into an average-sized coat-pocket with comparative facility. We hardly think that in view of the many reissues of such works as Wright's *Court Hand Restored*, which is, perhaps, the nearest English equivalent to Signor

Cappelli's work, and Mr. C. Trice Martin's *Record Interpreter*, that Signor Hoepli's enterprise is likely to command much sale in England. Even in Italy such a book can obviously appeal to but a limited class, and that class in England becomes of necessity more restricted by reason of the work giving only Italian translations of the Latin words. There are, no doubt, many scholars for whom the Latin equivalents are sufficient, but when for a few shillings a similar work with Latin and English translations can be purchased, it is hardly likely that a foreign manual will attract very many purchasers. The book, however, is very well done, as well as pleasant to look at, and the reproduction of no less than 13,000 signs and abbreviations is a valuable feature.

H. SAXE WYNDHAM.

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THE STORY OF ROUEN. Mediaeval Town Series.
By Theodore Andrea Cook. Illustrated by
Helen M. James and Jane E. Cook. London:
J. M. Dent and Co., 1899. Cloth, 8vo., pp. xvi,
409. Price 4s. 6d. net.

This is an amazing little book. There is absolutely no padding, for the volume is filled from cover to cover with information, much of which is quite new, and drawn direct from the original sources, set forth in an attractive style, and accompanied by a large number of charming illustrations. The latter, indeed, are most genuinely illustrative. Beautiful in themselves, they are invaluable commentaries on and aids to the text. Mr. Cook, remarking on the difference between the story of a town and the history of a people, says justly that "no single phrase can fairly sum up the characteristics of a people. But a town is like one face picked out of a crowd, a face that shows not merely the experience of our human span, but the traces of centuries that go backward into unrecorded time. In all this slow development a character that is individual and inseparable is gradually formed. That character never fades. It is to be found first in the geographical laws of permanent or slowly changed surroundings, and secondly in the outward aspect of the dwellings built by man, for his personal comfort or for the good of the material community, or for his spiritual needs." To these three kinds of architecture the author has skilfully linked the story of Rouen, in a book which should be the pocket companion of every future visitor to the ancient city. Among much new matter may be specially mentioned the record of criminals from the thirteenth to the eighteenth centuries—a most extraordinary and illuminating human document.

The numerous illustrations include a reproduction of a most picturesque view of Rouen, and a plan of the Vieux Marché, and of the Marché aux Veaux, both drawn by Jacques Lelieur in 1525. The plan is particularly interesting, for it enables us to see a French town of 1525 exactly as it was, for by a quaint mixture of plan and elevation, the architect has drawn not merely the course of various streets, but the façades of the houses on each side of them. Musicians will be interested in the sixteenth-century madrigal reproduced at pp. 362-368. It is hardly necessary to add that the get-up

of the book is worthy of the high reputation of Messrs. Dent. There is a sufficient Index and a List of Authorities.

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The May number of the *Genealogical Magazine* (London: *Elliot Stock*) contains the conclusion of Mr. Vade-Walpole's "Notes on the Walpoles"; continuations of the "Treatise on the Law concerning Names and Changes of Names"; of "The Lords and Marquises of Raineval," by the Marquis de Ruvigny and Raineval; of the "Duchy of Lancaster Inquisitions Post-mortem," by Ethel Stokes; of "An Old Scottish Manuscript," by Charles S. Romanes, and the second instalment of "Is there a French Nobility?" translated from the French of M. A. de Royer. The frontispiece is the book-plate of Lord Walpole of Woolterton.

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Several local magazines are on our table. The *Essex Review* (Chelmsford: *Durrant and Co.*) for April contains well illustrated papers on the church of "St. Laurence, Blackmore," by Fred. Chancellor, J.P.; and "The Roding, Roden, or Roothing: its Glory and its Abasement," by W. W. Glenny, J.P. There is also a notice of "The Furlly Family of Essex," by the Rev. Dr. H. de B. Gibbins. The *Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archaeological Journal* for April (Reading: *Charles Slaughter*), in addition to Proceedings of Societies, contains a capital article on "King John's Palace at Little Langley, Oxfordshire," by the late Dr. F. N. Macnamara; and "A Religious Census of the County of Berks in 1676, with Introduction and Notes," by Walter Money, F.S.A. The *East Anglian* (Norwich: A. H. Goose) for March has instalments of papers on "Cambridgeshire Church Goods," "Account-books of St. Stephen's Church and Parish, Norwich"—from which many quaint entries are given; "Some Suffolk Church Notes"; "A List of the Cambridgeshire Subsidy Rolls, 1250-1695," and other matter of varied interest. In a special note on the cover, the editor, the Rev. C. H. Evelyn White, F.S.A., appeals for help to raise a fund of £1,500 for the restoration—said to be much needed—of the ancient church of Rampton, Cambs., of which parish Mr. White is Rector.

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We have received the *American Antiquarian and Oriental Journal* (Chicago and London: Kegan Paul) for March and April. The illustrated papers are on "British Stone Circles," by A. L. Lewis; "Some Copper Implements from the Midland District, Ontario," by G. E. Laidlaw; and "Relics of the Cliff-dwellers," by Stephen D. Peet. Other articles deal with "Some of the Tablets of Montreal"; "The Hawaiian Language," etc.

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The following pamphlets have reached us: An abundantly illustrated *Guide to the Church of St. John the Baptist, in the City of Chester*, by the Rev. Canon S. Cooper Scott, M.A. (Chester: Phillipson and Golder, price 1s.); *Robin Hood: The Question of His Existence*, by A. Stapleton, wherein the said question is more particularly discussed from a Nottinghamshire point of view, and a conclusion favourable to the reality of Robin's personality arrived at; the *Report of the Penzance Natural History*

and Antiquarian Society, in which we observe with regret the complaint that the number of members is not increasing; the *Library Assistant* for May, containing an instructive paper by Armitage Denton on the parochial libraries founded by Dr. Bray; and *Footprints of the Druids: or, Saerssen Stones and Gray Wethers*, by R. L. Williams (Grays, Essex: Wilson and Whitworth)—a pamphlet containing some rather wild etymology, and the ascription of the placing in position of the stones of Stonehenge, the "Coronation Stone" at Kingston-on-Thames, and many other stones about the country, to a wholly imaginary "Ancient Hierarchical Druidical Synod."



Correspondence.

THE ROMANO-BRITISH CITY OF SILCHESTER.

TO THE EDITOR.

COMMENTING, in the May number of the *Antiquary*, upon my monograph, "The Romano-British City of Silchester," and my suggested derivation of the place-name, Mr. Henry Harrison has disregarded the widely divergent and almost antithetical significations of the Saxon word *ceaster*. The term was employed indifferently to denote a city or a fort, and, in some districts, simply an inhabited or occupied enclosure. A *ceaster*, therefore, does not always imply the existence of an aggregation of dwellings.

The adjectival prefix to a place-name which the Saxons would employ would be a term that would qualify the substantival element in a manner that would define and identify the site, and distinguish it from other more or less similar sites—a term that would distinguish a *ceaster* they found in one district from *ceasters* in other districts.

If, therefore, the Saxons found the *ceaster* of north Hampshire covered with dwellings, it is extremely probable that they would define the place by a term descriptive of that condition which must have been the most notable physical feature of the site—an element of environment which marked the north of Hampshire *ceaster* as different from many other *ceasters*.

Having in their language the word *sel*, meaning a dwelling-house, I suggested that the Saxons called the place *Selceaster*—the dwelling-house *ceaster*—in consequence of the quite abnormal number of houses within the city walls (as disclosed by the excavations on the site), a larger number by far than has been found on any other Roman site in Britain. Perhaps I may quote from my book that "a term more appropriate than *sel*, to qualify this *ceaster* of mansions and palaces and dwellings, could not have been devised."

Mr. Harrison states that "as in the case of most of the other *cesters* and *cesters* in this country, the first element of Silchester is beyond all reasonable doubt a relic of Celtic nomenclature." Doubtless many place-names with *chester* as the substantival

element have a Celtic prefix, but the only other place-name cited by Mr. Harrison, of which *chester* is an element, is Woodchester, the prefix of which is certainly Saxon, not Celtic, and a Saxon prefix to the Saxon *chester* is not exceptional.

Mr. Harrison cites Woodchester as a place-name identical with Silchester in signification, each meaning the *chester* in the wood. I will employ the same name Woodchester as illustrative of the identity (not of signification but) of the process of the naming of the two places. The Saxons finding a *chester* in a wood in Gloucestershire defined it as the *wood chester*, from *wudu*, a word in their own language meaning a collection of growing trees. Finding a *chester* in Hampshire covered with dwelling-houses, the Saxons defined it as the *dwelling-house chester*; in their own language *sel ceaster*, *sel* meaning a dwelling-house.

Mr. Harrison's other comment—that relative to my statement "not a single Roman place-name has survived"—would, treated exhaustively, occupy too much of your space, but I may explain that I did not, when making the statement, overlook the neighbouring Speen and its Roman name *Spina*. I was inclined to cite Speen as a possible exception, a possible survival, but as I had much information (though as yet incomplete) which seemed to point to a Saxon derivation of the name Speen, I was impelled to regard *Spina* as a Roman place-name that had gone the way of all others.

FREDERICK DAVIS.

Palace Chambers, Westminster,
May 3, 1899.

A BURIED ROMAN CITY IN BERKSHIRE.

TO THE EDITOR.

With reference to the "buried Roman City" at Stan-ford-in-the-Vale, near Faringdon, mentioned by Mrs. Stevenson at page 99 of the *Antiquary* for April, it would appear that it lies upon or near a line of road which is the London branch of the Salt-way from Droitwich. The very name of Stan-ford implies an ancient roadway. It crosses the Foss-way near Northwich, and runs on to Lechlade, Faringdon, and Wantage, where it joins the Eccleton or Portway from Aust Ferry, on the Severn, to Verulam (St. Albans). But at Wallingford it leaves this way, and runs to Henley and Maidenhead, and past Salt Hill, of Eton Montem fame, and so on to London via Brentford.

The absence of walls is not remarkable, for until the rebellion of Boadicea the Romans do not appear to have considered walls a necessity; but thereafter they appear to have built walled cities or camps, since called Chesters, for the protection of their garrisons; but there is nothing to lead to the supposition that other towns were walled.

H. F. NAPPER.

ERRATUM.—In the May number, p. 159, col. 1, line 18 from bottom, for *British* read *Bristol*.

NOTE TO PUBLISHERS.—We shall be particularly obliged to publishers if they will always state the price of books sent for review.